

Two-year delay over poll tax fears

# Clarke jeered as he puts off care package

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

PLANS to reform community care for the elderly, disabled and mentally handicapped have been postponed until after the next election to keep down poll tax bills and give local authorities more time to prepare for their new responsibilities.

Kenneth Clarke, the health secretary, was jeered by Opposition MPs when he told the Commons yesterday that the full care package will not now be introduced until 1993, two years later than planned.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities called the government's announcement "a quick fix for the poll tax at the expense of the elderly".

Ministers, who are worried that local authorities will increase poll tax bills and claim that the extra money was needed for community care, have decided to keep that element of public spending in government control for a further two years. They believe it will make it harder for high-spending local authorities to blur yearly spending comparisons and the consequent community charge levels.

However, Mr Clarke's statement caused an outcry among MPs and charity groups who believe that the postponement of the community care reforms will lead to more old people being evicted from residential homes. Campaigners are alarmed at the number of cases in which the level of social security income support fails to meet the cost of keeping the elderly in residential or nursing homes.

Under the shelved community care proposals local authorities would have been

win contracts from the local authorities. Mr Clarke said yesterday that it had become "overwhelmingly clear" that many local authorities were not managing their services and budgets to deliver quality care within reasonable spending limits.

The health secretary told the Commons that many local authorities had imposed excessive levels of community charge on their residents. He said there would, as a result, be a "phased timetable" for the reforms so that town halls could carry out adequate preparations for specialised accommodation and care, providing the service "at a cost their community charge payers can afford".

The Government's decision to shelve one of its most far-reaching and most popular reforms will have an immediate impact on both local councils and health authorities. It will jeopardise many council community projects that have already been planned to support the sick and elderly, and several councils will be forced to freeze plans to improve services for two years. Most local authorities have already committed significant resources to setting up financial systems and assessment procedures to go ahead next April, at the expense of other social services.

Local authority associations had complained that the care responsibilities would add £829 million a year to their outgoings, or an extra £15 on the average poll tax bill. The government disputes those figures although the health department will not disclose any of its own.

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Under the shelved community care proposals local authorities would have been

able to make financial arrangements to bridge the gap or provide home care so that old people did not have to go into care. To soften the blow of the delay, which is longer than expected in some quarters, although predicted in *The Times* last week, Mr Clarke announced alternative measures yesterday.

There will be 70 per cent government support for a specific grant of up to £30 million for the mentally ill from next April, to ensure that local authorities can give higher priority to this group. Councils will also be given an extra £2 million to help people with drug and alcohol problems, and the government will hand over another £7.5 million to boost the training of social services staff. As a result, the training budget will total £35.5 million in 1991-92.

The health secretary told MPs that new inspection units and complaints procedures in local authorities will start next year and development work for local councils and health authorities will begin in April 1992. However, he said the full reform package will not now begin until April 1993.

Written Commons answers from the Welsh and Scottish secretaries yesterday outlined similar delays in community care plans for Scotland and Wales.

Robin Cook, the Opposition spokesman on health issues, told Mr Clarke that his statement "will be almost universally greeted with anger for its neglect of the most vulnerable people in our community and contempt for the broken promises it leaves behind, contempt for the cowardice with which you attempt to... blame local authorities".

Mr Clarke said the cost of the initial stage of the plans had already been taken into account in next year's Government grant to local councils. Details of the allocation will be announced by Chris Patten, the environment secretary, in the Commons today after the cabinet has agreed outline totals for this year's Whitehall public spending round.

The government says its decision to postpone the care community plans was partly prompted by the extra responsibilities given to town halls under the children act, the new school curriculum and the food act. The health secretary told the Commons it was "common sense" not to add to that list next year.

Charities' reaction, page 2

Poll tax spending, page 5

Parliament, page 8

## Higher phone charges 'will hit blind hardest'

By A STAFF REPORTER

THE blind and people on fixed incomes will be particularly badly hit by an average jump in telephone charges of 9 per cent from this September, British Telecom's customers' association said yesterday.

The users' group is angry that evening and weekend telephone calls will be effectively 15 per cent more expensive after BT lowers the duration of a one-unit, cheap-rate call from 5½ minutes to 4 minutes.

The consumers point out

that while cheap-rate users will have to pay extra for calls from the autumn, the increase for commercial customers is just 3.5 per cent.

The charge of joining the network is also going up to £148.65 for a residential line, while the cost of renting a line rises by £2.05 to £19.70 per quarter, an increase of 11.8 per cent. The minimum charge of using a pay phone will stay at 10p.

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Vanishing father, page 2

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When did you last see your father?

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## US opens Hanoi link to counter Khmer Rouge

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

THE United States, in an important policy shift, is to open new contacts with Vietnam as part of an effort to end the civil war that has torn Cambodia apart for a decade.

To underline its determination to prevent Khmer Rouge forces from shooting their way back to power, the Bush administration will no longer support the right of the three-party "assistance coalition" now fighting the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh to continue occupying Cambodia's seat at the United Nations.

Explaining this about-face in Paris yesterday, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, said that although Washington had worked hard for a political settlement in Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge, which dominates the resistance movement, had concentrated on "the dialogue of the battlefield".

At the end of a two-hour meeting with Edward Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, Mr Baker said: "We want to talk to Vietnam because we think they have influence over the Cambodian government and

could use this to help us construct conditions permitting free elections."

Mr Baker made it clear that America has not decided to normalise relations with Hanoi after years of working to isolate Vietnam diplomatically and economically. The new dialogue will only concern the Cambodian situation.

The British government said agencies yesterday welcomed America's change of policy. London's view was expressed in the Lords by Lord Brabazon, minister of state at the Foreign Office, who said Washington's decision would improve the prospect of bringing a peaceful solution to the Cambodian civil war. Oxfam described the American move as a breakthrough which may have come only just in time to prevent the Khmer Rouge returning to power.

Although American support for the two non-communist factions operating alongside the Khmer Rouge will continue, Mr Shevardnadze noted with evident satisfaction that Washington's line had now moved closer to that of Mos-

cow. The Khmer Rouge gets its support from China, but attempts to convince Peking to cut that aid appear so far to have been fruitless.

The shift by the Americans, who have not had diplomatic relations with Hanoi since the end of the Vietnam war in 1975, coincides with an apparent deadlock in the latest efforts of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to achieve a Cambodian peace settlement.

Son Sann, who heads the leading non-communist Cambodian guerrilla groups, said the American decision to open dialogue with Vietnam could damage prospects for peace.

"For the past 11 years, the West has helped Cambodians to keep Cambodia from the Vietnamese invaders," he said. "And now the Vietnamese, who want to pull out, are about to receive help."

He said the only way to shut his allies out was to work for the implementation of a UN peace plan aimed at allowing Cambodians to vote in free elections after a ceasefire.

Khmer advances, page 9

Forecast details, page 24

## Congress meetings please Kinnoek

From PHILIP WEBSTER IN WASHINGTON

NEIL Kinnoek yesterday described his United States visit as successful and productive after concluding a series of meetings with congressional leaders.

The Labour leader ended his trip as he began it, claiming that Labour's approach to Europe and East-West relations was more in line with that of the American government than Margaret Thatcher's.

Mr Kinnoek said the feeling he had detected in the Senate was that the Cold War was over and that it was time to get on with the peace.

"We found this encouraging because it reinforced the attitude we have towards the conduct of East-West relations," he said. He had also detected a concern that Britain should exert a much more clear influence on the direc-

tion of affairs in the European Community.

He added that the visit had been highly successful because of the way he and Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, had confirmed to them in the most direct terms what they had hoped was the direction of US policy.

He had meetings yesterday with Tom Foley, speaker of the House of Representatives, Bob Dole and George Mitchell, the Senate minority and majority leaders, and Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed forces committee.

Mr Kinnoek's visit and talks with President Bush on Tuesday received favourable coverage in the American press yesterday.

Kinnoek image, page 10

Leading article, page 13

## Space walk cosmonauts in race against time

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TWO Soviet cosmonauts who went on a space walk to a capsule they must repair to return to earth had to force their way back on board the space station Mir through an emergency hatch with their life support systems running out, it emerged yesterday.

The Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* headlined their race against time "Midnight emergency in outer space", and said that life support systems in the cosmonauts' spacesuits were running so low as they approached their limit that they had to be "fed" outside the ship, apparently drawing oxygen from the vessel.

They had to use the emergency hatch to re-enter the spacecraft because their normal porthole malfunctioned and their life-support supplies were running out. *Izvestia* said

that it took Anatoli Soloviyev and Aleksandr Balandin three hours to reach their damaged capsule after crawling out of Mir and scampering along its outer skin using fasteners like mountain climbers. They managed to fold part of the damaged insulation using clamps, but had to leave another damaged piece alone because it would not budge, the paper said.

It raised the possibility that human error could be behind the hatch problem and that the cosmonauts might have to take another space walk for more repairs before they can return to earth safely. But an American specialist on the Soviet space programme said the hatch problem might also prevent Soloviyev, aged 42, the flight commander, and Balandin, aged 36, the engineer, from taking another space walk. The cosmonauts

apparently closed an inner hatch to seal one end of the airlock that leads to the troublesome outside hatch. That airlock apparently contains the equipment they use for their space walks.

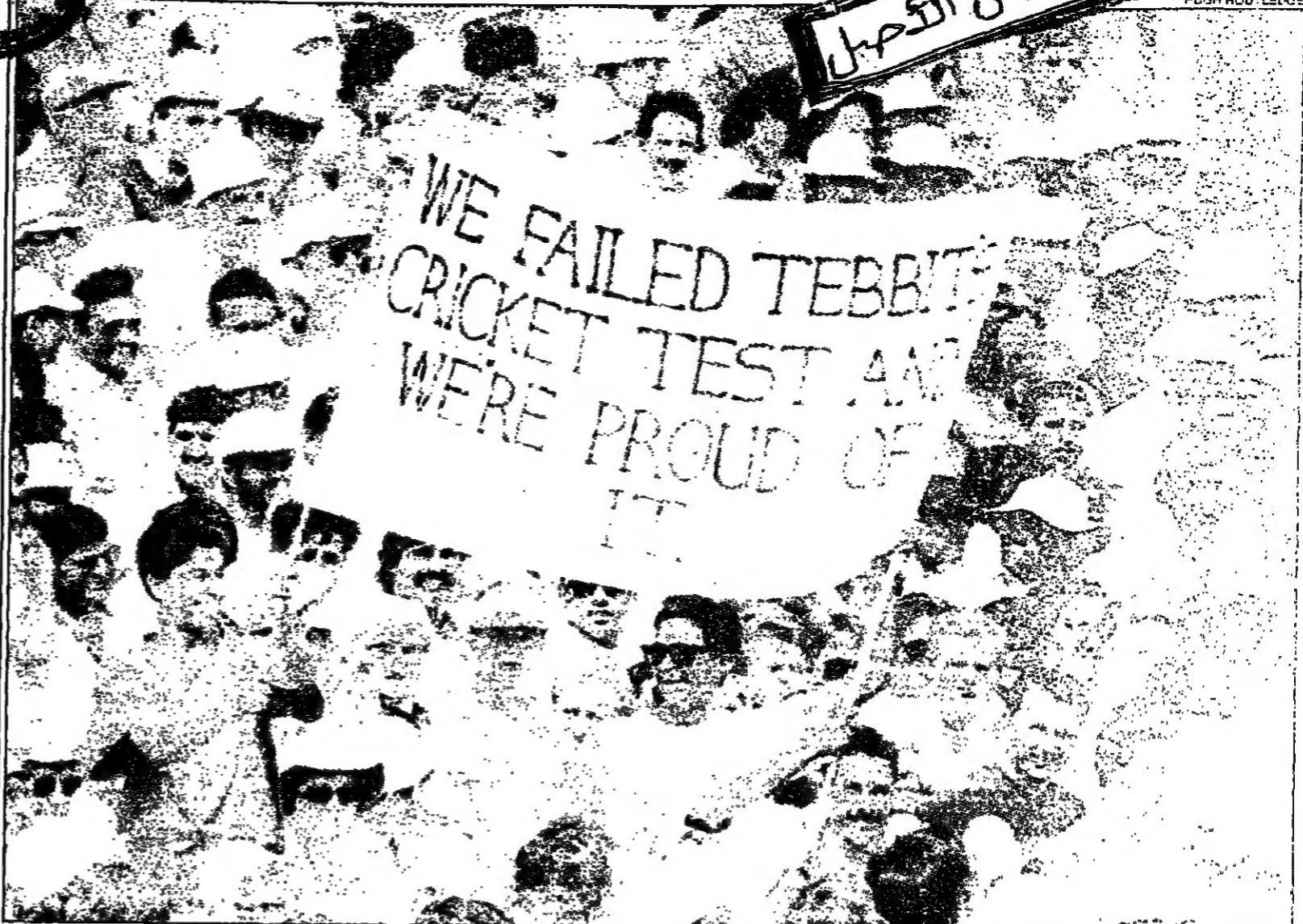
On Tuesday, they were unable to close the hatch after they entered the airlock "either because of the rush, tiredness or some other unknown reason," *Izvestia* said. Tass said they had to re-enter through another hatch that leads into a compartment for scientific equipment. The repairs and re-entry took seven hours, about two hours longer than scheduled.

The cosmonauts on Tuesday left Mir, the Soviet space station that has been orbiting for four years, to fix thermal insulation around the Soyuz TM-9 capsule which they must use to return to earth. Nearly half the

insulation on the capsule, which is docked to Mir, has peeled off, news reports have said. After repairing some of the damaged insulation, the cosmonauts, who were working without tethers or hoses connected to the ship, encountered the hatch problem.

James Oberg, author of several books on the Soviet space programme, said from Texas that although the cosmonauts managed to climb back into Mir safely, the hatch problem could complicate future spacewalks.

The hatch malfunction was one of a series of problems on their six-month mission, but officials at the Soviet mission control centre in Kaliningrad, north of Moscow, tried to minimise the incident. "No one is concerned here. It is an abnormal situation but controllable," a spokesman said.



Banner boast: British Indians at Headingley, Leeds, with a banner proclaiming their support for the tourists, who beat England by six wickets yesterday in the first of the one-day internationals for the Texaco trophy. Match report, page 42

## Thatcher acts on missing fathers

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

MARGARET Thatcher took the first initiative in the government's family policy yesterday by announcing an agency to track down absent fathers while warning of the effects of divorce and the rise in lone-parent families on children and society.

But her failure to indicate the priorities to be set out in this autumn's white paper on the family was seen at Westminster as underlining the confusion within the Conservative party on the role of women in the 1990s.

The prime minister said that in spite of having sympathy for the difficult circumstances behind the divorce figures "they should cause us the greatest unease" because of the interests of children. In some areas children hardly know what an "ordinary married family" is like.

But at London's Savoy Hotel in her first speech to the 300 Group, campaigning for more women in parliament and public life, she refrained from calling for harsher divorce laws but emphasised that a father's responsibility continues after separation.

Britain has one of the highest divorce rates in the European Community with one in five children experiencing divorce, she said.

Continued on page 24, col 5

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Eighteen pages of top jobs in the appointments section

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# Charities condemn postponement of community care plan

By DAVID YOUNG

LOCAL authorities and charities involved in care for the sick, the elderly and the mentally handicapped reacted angrily yesterday to the postponement of the Government plan to fund community care proposals, saying they would cause distress, confusion and the suspicion that the proposals are now being buried rather than postponed.

The Conservative-controlled Association of District Councils, representing the shire local authorities, will meet Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health today to voice its concern.

The Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities said that the

delays represented "a quick fix for the poll tax at the expense of the elderly".

Toby Harris of the association's social services committee, said: "For Mr Clarke to say it is local government's fault is a travesty."

"We did not invent the poll tax. We were ready to go next April but the government, finding itself in such a financial and political mess - and for the sake of 15p a week on the poll tax - has abandoned its promises to the elderly."

Closures of some local authority residential care homes and geriatric hospital units were predicted by the Council and Care of the Elderly organisation after Mr Clarke's announcement. A spokesman said the

delay would cause a real risk of closures if it went ahead without matching facilities in the community to care for the elderly people involved.

The mental health charity MIND claimed that the government's decision was letting down some of the most vulnerable groups in society.

A spokesman said: "The delay masks the fact that the policy would have been seriously underfunded by the government. MIND's anxiety is that, even when the policy is implemented, the government may still not fully fund community care."

Help the Aged said: "We are bitterly disappointed. To put the blame on local authorities being unprepared is to confuse

the issue. For years community care has suffered from planning blight, waiting for a clear lead from government. Now that prospect, held out in the rapid parliamentary discussions of the legislation, has been put on the back burner."

The Association of London Authorities condemned the delay as a betrayal of the hopes of 20,000 with disabilities who would otherwise be in residential care.

The Association of Community Health Councils for England and Wales was "shocked and appalled" and "deeply regretted" the delay as "a lack of commitment to vulnerable people with disabilities and to their carers".

Dr Patrick Dixon, of the Aids Care and

Education Trust, said: "We are very angry about the announcement. What this will cause is a complete planning blight on organisations such as ours which had been gearing up to provide services for the community."

Anchor Housing, a charity which provides homes for the elderly, said: "Elderly people will find it increasingly difficult to find affordable residential care on the DSS allowance they now receive. The delay in community care plans will be a disaster for them and for the voluntary sector care homes trying to provide an affordable service without going bankrupt."

Parliament, page 8

## Baker reaffirms European union pledge

By RICHARD FORD  
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Baker yesterday reinforced the efforts of Conservative politicians to repair the damage caused by the controversy leading to Nicholas Ridley's resignation by emphasising the party's long-term commitment to the European Community.

Although he admitted that stages two and three of the Delors plan for European economic and monetary union would be deeply divisive, he said that the debate in Britain was about when and how union took place rather than whether it occurs.

Stages two and three of the Delors plan would pose constitutional issues for Britain but threatened to relegate Spain, Portugal and Greece to the second tier of a new Europe, Mr Baker, Conservative party chairman, said.

He said that Britain's alternative proposal for a "hard core" was not a delaying tactic but offered a practical, evolutionary alternative to stages two and three of the Delors plan, about which the government had grave doubts. The plan put forward by John Major, the Chancellor, was a serious proposal in the interests of European unity.

The proposals in the Delors report would be thoroughly divisive, Mr Baker told a meeting of the European Union of Women in London. "For Britain, the issues involved are primarily constitutional ones, although economically we would be capable of participating."

In his speech, Mr Baker highlighted Britain's record in implementing EC measures and the government's role in ensuring that the debate on European union took a more practical rather than utopian tone.

Britain was not standing sulking on the sidelines of the European community, Mr Baker said. "Let no one doubt our commitment to the development of the new Europe. In the last decade of this century we have the opportunity both to widen and deepen our association throughout the whole continent."

Revised Levin, page 12

## Fayeds take DTI case to Strasbourg

The Fayed brothers, owners of the House of Fraser group which includes Harrods, disclosed yesterday that they are to challenge the alleged "unfairness" of the Department of Trade and Industry's inspection system and the damage they say results before the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

They also said that they will withdraw libel actions against the Observer newspaper.

The brothers said that "the lack of basic safeguards in the inspection system makes it a travesty of justice".

Mohamed Fayed, chairman of House of Fraser Holdings, said: "Our action is aimed not only at exposing the grave injustice in our particular case but also at improving the system for the benefit of others."

## Bomb arrest

A Coventry man was being questioned in Bristol last night by detectives hunting animal rights activists responsible for a bomb that exploded in the Cotham area of the city last month, injuring John Copper, aged 13 months.

## Parents' plea

The parents of two boys aged 10 and 11 who were sexually assaulted, strangled and left for dead last weekend at Lytham, Lancashire, have appealed to the public to help police find the attacker, who rides a racing bicycle.

## Ruling delayed

Judgment was reserved in the High Court yesterday in a test case in which four banned drivers asked for their convictions to be quashed because swabs impregnated with alcohol were used in blood tests.

## CORRECTIONS

The actress with Vivien Leigh in the scene from the film of *Gone with the Wind* on page 19 yesterday was Hattie McDaniel, not Butterfly McQueen.

The conference, "Policing in the nineties" (report, July 12) was arranged by the all-party European Council for Safety and Security, not the Labour party as stated.

By the Times overseas

London 020 7556 1111, Sydney 02 955 1111, Melbourne 03 955 1111, Perth 08 955 1111, Adelaide 08 955 1111, Brisbane 07 955 1111, Auckland 09 955 1111, Christchurch 03 955 1111, Dunedin 03 955 1111, Invercargill 03 955 1111, Wellington 04 955 1111, Auckland 09 955 1111, Christchurch 03 955 1111, Dunedin 03 955 1111, Invercargill 03 955 1111, Wellington 04 955 1111.

## Complaints double over computer data misuse

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE use of computer systems poses a growing threat that information about individuals on different systems can be cross-matched, the Data Protection Registrar warned in his annual report published yesterday.

The registrar, Eric Howe, said that the danger arose because of the widespread use of personal identification numbers to encode data on individuals. That raised the spectre of a national identity system effectively coming in through the back door, an official at his office said.

The report said that "from a technical viewpoint, it is increasingly possible to bring together information about individuals from many different computer files, perhaps held on different computer users for quite unrelated purposes". As a result, information on people could be used out of context, errors could be replicated, unjust decisions

made and decisions based on information of "doubtful completeness".

Mr Howe urged safeguards so personal identification numbers were "context specific": that is, particular to a given computer user or a given use of personal data. "If public policy or particular circumstances dictate that there should be data matching or common use of a person identification number, then there should be appropriate safeguards for individuals."

Mr Howe highlighted that concern at a time when the volume of complaints to his office about the misuse of personal data on computers more than doubled. In particular there had been a sharp rise in complaints about unsolicited mail which accounted for 45 per cent of complaints, three times the previous year's figure.

Complaints totalled 2,698 in the 12 months to the end of May 1990, almost two and a half times the figures for the previous 12 months. Although complaints about consumer credit accounted for 17 per cent, that was half the 35 per cent the previous year. Complaints from people refused access to their files also fell from 18 per cent to 8 per cent.

The registrar's primary concern remained the prospect of data-matching. That can happen if there was common use of a number such as that for national insurance. Although that was only introduced for a particular purpose, it had crept into use for other purposes, the report said. "The national insurance number is now, for example, the primary income tax reference number and its use has been extended into local authorities in connection with various benefit payments."

Its use was likely to extend to the private sector, under new laws on personal equity plans, which constrain private sector organisations to collect national insurance numbers, the report said. But the registrar commended the decision by ministers not to use the national insurance number for the student loans scheme.

Donald Spiers, head of aircraft control at the ministry, said there were two main problems with the computer system. "Firstly, a number of logic areas: it gets its sums wrong. We get wrong answers sometimes and the bugs have to be tracked down and sorted out," he said.

"Secondly, from time to time it crashes. What this means is the equivalent of a nervous breakdown. It becomes confused with the information and goes wrong."

Work began on ICCS in 1981 and Mr Spiers said it had suffered a disastrous failure in a 1988 test. The committee was told the production consortium had now upgraded the main computers to give more power. No payment has been made to the companies for the two years because of the problems, Mr Spiers said. He added that all software problems to date had been solved and the rate of new problems had begun to slow.

ICCS will link and co-ordinate radars, fighters, surface-to-air missiles and air command centres to defend Britain's four million miles of airspace.



Bigger slice for women? Mrs Thatcher cutting the cake at the 300 Group with Staff Sergeant Miller, who baked it, and Cynthia Lake, treasurer.

## Ministers' hunt for vanishing father pays off

Margaret Thatcher's growing concern about the future of the family and how it should be supported has stemmed from startling statistics showing that Britain now has one of the highest rates in Europe for divorce, illegitimate births and single-parent families.

Yesterday's announcement at the 300 Group luncheon to set up a system to retrieve maintenance payments from absent fathers is the culmination of three years' work on how the government should tackle this emerging breakdown in the traditional family unit with its knock-on effect in rising state support. At the turn of the century only 4 per cent of births were outside marriage, but the rate rose in both world wars, and then more than doubled in the 1980s, accounting now for more than a quarter of all births.

The combination of illegitimate births and a high divorce rate has inevitably led to a relentless rise in state support to lone-parent families, a burden which the government has been blatantly keen to offload.

Over the past decade the number of single parents receiving benefits has risen by 141 per cent, to 1.2 million, with the greatest increase among unmarried mothers. The cost of child support through income-related

benefits rose from £1.2 billion in 1981-82 to £2.7 billion in 1988. Only a quarter of lone parents receiving income support now receive maintenance payments from their children's fathers, however, compared to 50 per cent in 1979. The level of payments has also varied widely, with an average award of £18 a week for an only child. That compares to state benefit to the mother and child of about £50 a week.

The social security department has failed manifestly in ensuring that absent fathers meet their responsibilities, although its collection rates are improving. Last year its officers recovered £180 million, compared to £150 million the previous year. This year they are expected to retrieve £260 million.

Earlier this year Peter Lilley, in his former post at the Treasury, paved the way for yesterday's announcement by declaring that the Inland Revenue would in future be able to provide the social security department with details which would make it easier for officers to track down liable relatives, mainly fathers.

John Patten, the Home Office minister, has also made clear that he intends to introduce legislation to enable maintenance payments to be deducted from salary in some cases. The establishment of a new child care

agency, which could avoid lengthy and expensive court proceedings for maintenance payments and a new formula for assessing these fees, should ensure a much higher success rate in recovering cash.

Concern over single parents and their growing cost to the Exchequer first arose in 1987. The issue was raised briefly by David Willets, now director of the right wing think tank, the Centre for Policy Studies, when he was a member of the policy unit at Downing Street. Various internal papers were then circulated at the centre, when he moved there, stemming from reports of the growing welfare dependency in the US.

John Moore, the new social services secretary, was creating his own waves by suggesting that single pregnant women should not be given priority in obtaining council houses. His attempt to introduce legislation to remove what he regarded as an incentive to become pregnant failed, however.

When Mr Moore was moved sideways to head the new social security department in 1988 he again raised the issue of mounting state support for lone parents. Both he and the prime minister were worried that the benefit system provided a marginal incentive for single parents. It also gave a disincentive for mothers

to go out to work. Once single mothers started work, they lost their benefit pound for pound against their new income.

Mr Moore failed, however, to get the co-operation from the Inland Revenue and the Lord Chancellor which his successor, Tony Newton, has now achieved and his initiative faded into obscurity. It soon became clear that the only politically acceptable way to shift state support was to tackle the absent father. Initially the poverty lobby balked at the idea calling it "a wife beater's charter".

Organisations such as the National Council for One-Parent Families argued that the absent father would come round and beat up the mother, threatening her not to reveal his whereabouts. In the past 12 months, however, most groups have supported the idea in principle, while calling for adequate safeguards. This support galvanised ministers into action. Although Mr Newton denies that he has copied any system, there are strong similarities with the American scheme, where a state agency has been set up to run an administrative system to collect money from the fathers.

JILL SHERMAN  
Social Services Correspondent

Leading article, page 13

## Thatcher's message disappoints family groups

By LIN JENKINS

GROUPS concerned about the increasing number of families breaking up in Britain were disappointed yesterday that Margaret Thatcher's speech failed to address the causes.

The campaigners had hoped that the central message would go beyond her statement that "parenthood is for life" to emphasise the importance of the family as a unit and announce steps to help people to stay together. Even the proposal that a child support agency would be established to ensure that fathers paid maintenance failed to generate much applause as many saw it merely

as a way of reducing the government's child support bill rather than improving the circumstances of some of the country's poorest groups.

Ivan Sokolov, co-director of Parent Network, a self-help group which teaches parents how to deal with the problems of family life and improve relationships, said he had hoped for some acknowledgement of the work of such groups. "This sort of thing is very successful in keeping families together. There needs to be more education in the beginning, before marriages break down," he said. "Instead, Mrs Thatcher has followed the trend in society whereby we do not value parenthood

enough or give it enough thought. If we did there would not be the necessity to have to decide how to cope with the problems arising from the breakdown of relationships."

Mr Sokolov said there was an underlying assumption that parenthood, relationships and marriage were instinctive, but experience suggested otherwise. "People need to be taught how to cope with relationships, yet the government has missed an opportunity to endorse this idea."

Relate, formerly the Marriage Guidance Council, says its work suggests other areas where the government could tackle the causes rather than

the effects of marital breakdown. More than half the couples who turn to the agency stay together. Zaida West-Meads, the Relate spokeswoman, said: "There is plenty of scope for more to be done. We welcome the idea of a child support agency as currently there are many women chasing for the money through the courts and it is often a reason why fathers lose contact with their children, which is rarely a good thing."

The idea of a child support agency has been successfully implemented in Australia. In Britain only 6 per cent of mothers receive the maintenance they are due on a regular basis. Since the

agency was set up in Australia the figure has risen from 25 per cent to 70 per cent, with 90 per cent of fathers being traced.

Mrs Thatcher hinted that their model of a "standard administrative formula" for setting payment levels had found favour. In Australia, after an initial allowance has been taken into account, the parent has to pay between 18 and 36 per cent of income, depending on the number of children involved. The couple know before they separate how much one will pay and the other receive, whereas in Britain awards of varying greatly depending on which court the case comes before.

## Scientists identify gene which ensures that boys will be boys

By THOMSON PRENTICE, SCIENCE CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH geneticists believe they have found the answer to a profound question: what makes a man a man?

The explanation has eluded philosophers and scientists for centuries. Aristotle thought that the intensity of lovemaking or positions of sexual intercourse influenced the sex of the baby conceived.

It took Peter Goodfellow of the human molecular genetics laboratory of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, to produce the answer yesterday. He and colleagues at the National Institute for Medical Research, a division of the Medical Research Council, have identified a new gene which seems to play a crucial role in determining the sex of the embryo at an early stage of

its development. The discovery was described as a landmark in scientific progress but the researchers said that they do not yet know what practical value their findings will have.

They reached their goal by experiments on mice and men, but included a range of other mammals, including rabbits, pigs, horses and even a tiger at London Zoo.

The new gene appears capable of influencing the gonads, or sex glands, to become the male testis rather than the female ovary, by "switching on" chemical signals in the embryo about eight weeks after fertilization.

The gene, called SRY, has been found in a tiny region of the Y chromosome, which has been regarded for many years

as the source of male characteristics.

Females possess two X chromosomes and males an X and a Y chromosome. In 1959, it was established that a girl results from the fusion of an egg and sperm both bearing the X chromosome, while a boy results from the fusion of an X egg and a Y sperm.

This implied that a gene on the Y chromosome was responsible for making males. The quest for the male sex-determining gene on the Y chromosome has been conducted ever since, with intense competition between researchers in Britain and America.

The findings are published in today's issue of *Nature*.

Science, page 17

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Shared friends

Results page 25

Shared friends

Shared friends

## Telephone charges up by 9% for most users

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE cost of keeping in touch is to leap by 9 per cent according to British Telecom which yesterday announced its new prices for telephone services.

A wave of protest greeted a series of rises the heaviest of which is a £2.05 increase to £19.70 on residential rentals.

The average bill for household telephones will rise by 7.7 per cent but BT said if the heaviest 25 per cent of users and the same proportion of low level users were excluded, then the median rise affecting most customers would be 9 per cent.

The average bill of business users will rise by just 3.5 per cent, due mainly to a £3.37 per quarter increase on business line rentals to £31.92, but BT said that companies had for years subsidised residential telephone bills.

Connection charges will also be increased for business lines by £17.15 to £162.90 and residential by £15.65 to £148.65. The cost per unit of

calls remains unchanged at 5.06p including VAT as does the minimum price of a public payphone call at 10p.

The time allowed for a local call at cheap rates in the evenings and weekends is being cut from 5½ minutes to four minutes which will mean a 15 per cent rise in the average cost.

The Telecommunications Users' Association accused BT of aiming the enormous rises in cheap-rate calls after 6pm at home phone owners.

Vivienne Peters, chief executive of the watchdog body, said the rises in rental charges had not been offset by realistic reductions in other charges.

"The benefits of a digital network and the continuing upgrading of local exchanges have brought great improvements in the quality of service, but where are the cost savings from these new technologies and from increased productivity?" Mrs Peters said.

The new charges reflect an overall rise of 5.3 per cent in the BT basket of services. The National Federation of the Blind of the UK said this would mean many more blind people would not be able to afford a telephone.

Jill Allen King, the federation's spokeswoman, said that like most blind people she found the telephone was her link with the outside world. She said: "It will be blind people who suffer most."

The rises will come into effect in September. Meanwhile Sir Bryan Carsberg, Director General of Telecommunications, said that OfTel, the watchdog body, will study the increases to ensure they comply with the price control rules.

Direct dialled international calls to more than 100 countries will cost slightly less and the cost of peak and standard rate calls in Britain will be reduced with more time allowed per unit charge.

Michael Bent, managing director of British Telecom UK, said: "We have continued to reduce prices in real terms and at the same time improved quality of service. BT services are excellent value for money."

BT, which made a £2.3 billion profit last year, said the 9 per cent rise for a "representative" residential phone bill was well within the most recent 9.8 per cent inflation figure. Low level users may get rental rebates of up to 40 per cent.



Mrs Parish and her daughter Michelle after their reunion at Gatwick airport yesterday. The nurse said she was looking forward to a rest

## Police in regions warned of rise in serious fraud cases

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S police must gear themselves to face an expansion of serious and complex fraud cases across the country as City institutions and large businesses move out of London, John Wood, the director of the Serious Fraud Office, said yesterday.

Many forces may not be equipped with manpower or finances for such cases and the solution, he said, lay in the formation of regional crime squads. Chief constables are discussing the creation of five super regional crime squads and fraud investigators could be attached to each.

Mr Wood, speaking on the publication of his last annual report for the Serious Fraud Office before going to Hong Kong next month as director of public prosecutions, said there was evidence that criminals such as armed robbers were turning to fraud because banks could be robbed with fewer risks and reduced penalties. A bank robber might take £20,000 and face a 15 year sentence but a £20 million fraud might earn him a mere five years in prison.

One way of fighting the frauds was to improve co-operation with other countries, Mr Wood said. This would happen with the implementation of the Criminal

Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990 allowing the Serious Fraud Office to investigate on behalf of other countries.

Mr Wood said he would also like to see improvements in the investigation and prosecution of EC fraud. "The regulations of the community are so impossible that it is very easy for a defendant to drive a coach and horses through them," he said.

In Britain he believed the Serious Fraud Office was doing well. From April 1989 to April 1990 17 trials were completed and 24 out of 32 defendants convicted.

## It's wonderful to be free, says nurse released from Iraqi jail

DAPHNE Parish, the nurse freed by Iraq, arrived in Britain yesterday and described how she had coped with solitary confinement by writing on her cell wall and inventing games.

Mrs Parish, arrested with the journalist Farzad Bazoft who was hanged for allegedly spying, hugged her daughter Michelle de Vries and said: "It is wonderful to finally be free."

From Iraq she had flown to Zambia whose leader President Kaunda had arranged for her release. There she was handed over to the British high commission and then continued her journey to Britain. Yesterday, after being greeted by relatives at Gatwick airport, Mrs Parish, aged 53, said she wanted to celebrate her release, have a rest and find a job.

She said that the worst aspect of her time in prison was the solitary confinement. "I was in a room all alone and I had nothing to do. So I invented games," she said. She also used newspaper to make a chess set, a Scrabble set and a pack of cards.

Once, she wrote out lines from Rupert Brooke's *The Soldier*. "I had moments of intense despair and I wrote on the wall the poem 'If I should die think only this of me that there is some corner of a foreign field which is forever England'. But I rubbed it out 24 hours later."

Asked about the death of Mr Bazoft, a journalist based in London with the *Observer*, she replied: "I am very sad. I don't know the full story. You know more than I do." When asked what his last words to her were she said: "I cannot

tell you, it is not very complimentary." She refused to be drawn on this. "I did not know he was going to be executed. I heard from the embassy and I was shocked." She said that there had been times when she had feared for her life.

Among the welcoming party at Gatwick was Donald Treford, editor of the *Observer*.

Mrs Parish was freed from prison on Monday after serving four months of her 15-year sentence for spying. She had spent another six months in jail before her trial. Mrs Parish has insisted she is innocent.

● An appeal to Iraq to show clemency to the British businessman Ian Richter, serving a life sentence after being convicted of bribery in 1987, has been renewed. Foreign Office said yesterday.

## Two-tier watershed suggested for 'adult' television

By RICHARD EVANS  
MEDIA EDITOR

A TWO-tier European television watershed to protect children from unsuitable sexual or violent programmes beamed by satellite across national boundaries was floated yesterday by Lord Rees-Mogg, chairman of the Broadcasting Standards Council.

The BBC and ITV presently enforce a 9pm watershed after which more adult material can be screened. Lord Rees-Mogg has suggested that a graded system, with different watersheds at 8pm and 10pm, could be the answer for Europe.

The idea, which would have to be discussed by broadcasters and television regulators throughout the community, follows the passing of a European directive and convention on transfrontier broadcasting. The council's annual report said yesterday: "Throughout Europe priority is attached to the need for the protection of children and young people. It seems likely, therefore, that an early question for international discussion will be whether, as a reflection of this concern, it is desirable or practical to establish an agreed watershed throughout Europe before which transfrontier programmes would be expected to be suitable for family viewing."

Lord Rees-Mogg said television watersheds varied in Europe. Germany had the latest, starting at 11pm, while in France it began at 10.30pm. Even taking into account the one hour time difference between Britain and other European countries, there was a gap.

He said: "I suspect what will float back to the surface is the now rather disregarded cable authority view that you need a double threshold." That authority has overseen a two-tier watershed, at 8pm and 10pm, with programmes graded accordingly.

## Sunday mail soon for south

By DEREK HARRIS  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SOUTH-EAST England is shortly to get Sunday postal collections, about five months ahead of the schedule to which the Post Office has been working to bring in a nationwide service.

Sunday collections have been resumed after a 14-year gap in a four-month phased operation which is now serving all the United Kingdom except for the South-East.

The new weekend collections had proved popular both with Post Office staff and with customers. Sir Bryan Nicholson, the Post Office chairman, said:

"Nearly 1.5 million letters are being posted every Sunday, reflecting a sharp rise mainly from individuals."

Sir Bryan said: "There is a lot of bill paying and that sort of thing. But social mail is increasing. Younger people seem to be getting back to the art of letter-writing."

Overall, letter mail is up by 9.5 per cent to a record of 58 million items a day, according to the Post Office annual report. About a tenth of the mail is made up of social letters, it is estimated.

By the end of the decade mailed items are expected to reach 85 million a day despite the growth of electronic message systems. The appeal to business of direct mail shots would be an important influence, Sir Bryan said.

There will be localised publicity as the Sunday collections spread through the South-East in the next two to three weeks. Collections will be made mostly from post boxes attached to high street main and sub post offices.

Sunday deliveries remain an unlikely development because there was not much consumer demand for them, Sir Bryan said.

With the cost of posting a letter going up by 2p in September Sir Bryan said the Post Office would continue its policy of leaving a 12-month gap between rises.

Results, page 25

## High Court supports Sunday restrictions

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE validity of Sunday trading restrictions in England and Wales won High Court backing yesterday in a case crucial to the ability of local councils to enforce the law.

It is the first High Court ruling based on the European Court judgment earlier this year on the Sunday trading laws and will be binding on lower courts. The ruling by Mr Justice Hoffman in a case in which Stoke-on-Trent and Norwich city councils sought final injunctions against B & Q will be tested in the House of Lords.

The judge accepted undertakings from the company that it would not open its stores in Westwick Street,

Norwich and Festival Park, Hanley, on Sundays except for the sale of goods permitted under the 1950 Shops Act. These include such "perishable" items as newspapers, flowers and confectionery.

B & Q was granted a certificate that the case was of sufficient importance to justify a "leapfrog" appeal to the House of Lords, missing out the Court of Appeal, but it still has to apply to the law lords for permission to appeal. The company has to pay costs.

David Blackmore, operations director of the Keep Sunday Special Campaign, described the ruling as "a body blow to the law-breaking bully boys".

## Shared foreign villas strain friendships, tourists told

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

AS THOUSANDS of families prepared to set off for a self-catering holiday abroad the Consumers' Association gave a warning yesterday that a fortnight in shared accommodation with lifelong friends can bring an end to that friendship.

Close friends "sometimes discover that they are incompatible when they share a house", the association says in the *Which? Guide to Self Catering Holidays Abroad*. "The key question to be faced long before everyone agrees on the choice of property and the bookings are finalised must be: do you really like the people concerned enough to spend every waking hour of the day with them for a fortnight or longer?"

A detailed account should be kept of every penny spent to avoid arguments about money, the association says.

The guide makes it clear that there are many advantages to self-catering, which leaves holidaymakers with freedom to go where they want and eat what they want. But, in a review of self-catering

accommodation in five European countries, *Which?* has a number of criticisms.

On France, it says: "The unbending opposition of the French aviation authority to charter flights on any significant scale makes package holidaymakers mainly reliant on scheduled flights, which are too expensive for the mass market." Many *gites*, or rural cottages, "have decidedly uncomfortable beds, practically no easy chairs and facilities bordering on the spartan."

On Greece, it reports: "Greek villas and apartments are generally shabby, uncomfortably furnished with mediocre equipment and facilities. If there is a swimming pool, rare in itself, it may be cracked or even empty. Only houses at the very top of the range come up to what would be regarded as an average standard in other Mediterranean countries such as France and Italy."

On Italy: "Few Italians are enthusiasts for holidays where they have to make their own beds and cook their own food. So the field is left clear for

foreigners who have these eccentric inclinations." Many holiday lettings were available but were often part of a complex network of agents, sub agents and go-betweens, making it difficult for a visitor to complain to the real owner.

On Portugal: "The Portuguese, ever eager to please, have done their best to turn the Algarve into a little England. Pubs with British beer, self-service hamburger restaurants, British tinned food in the supermarkets and estate agents with a hyperbole in every sentence, together tend to make parts of the Algarve disquietingly like an English south coast seaside resort. All that is missing is the pier."

On Spain: Cheap charter flights and a wide range of self-catering establishments make Spain still the most attractive destination in Europe. But accommodation at very low prices "will almost certainly have major disadvantages in a country where the Spanish construction industry has turned cutting corners into an art in itself", the *Which?* report says.

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## Poll tax bills will show how money is spent

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

POLL TAX bills will be simplified next year to enable charge payers to tell exactly how their money is spent.

Chris Patten, the environment secretary, will announce new measures to strengthen the accountability of councils when he unveils the results of the ministerial review of the community charge today. Among the expected reforms will be a requirement for poll tax bills to show net figures for the demands made by each tier of local government on the individual charge payer.

At present it is impossible for charge payers in English shire districts to assess how much of the final net charge will go to the county and how much to the district council. Ministers want English poll tax bills to look more like those in Wales which spell out

the net figures for each tier culminating in the actual sum to be paid.

The differences between the bills reflect the fact that England and Wales have separate local authority grant systems. Wales has retained the approach used under the rating system where each tier receives its own support grants.

In England, revenue support grant is paid into a collection fund for each area along with poll tax and business rate income. Counties, districts and parishes then draw on the single fund. As a result, bills show the gross demands made by district and county councils with the grant figure deducted at the bottom of the sum to produce the net poll tax level.

Ministers have ruled out root and branch reforms to the poll tax system so a wholesale switch to the Welsh approach seems unlikely. More probable is the adoption of a formula for the allocation of grant to the two tiers on bills.

While this would be welcomed by the district councils, whose spending on average accounts for less than a quarter of the total bill, it would deprive the government of its status as protector of the charge-payer.

A senior official who helped to draw up the present system said: "At the moment you have the grant figure riding into the bill like a white knight to save the individual payer from the demands of the big battalions. By splitting the figure you would lessen the impact of the government's contribution and lose the point that this is not a grant to pay for services but to protect the charge-payer."

Mr Patten will also announce how much extra money the government is prepared to give local councils in England next year. They have asked for £4 billion more in revenue support grant but Mr Patten is thought to have won about only £2.5 billion from the Treasury and by no means all of this will go to the councils.

Among the other expected poll tax reforms will be help for owners of second homes, builders and holiday caravan owners, all of whom are at present eligible to pay up to twice the usual community charge on empty property.

## Gibraltar benefits cost £72m

THE Foreign Office faces a £72 million bill to provide pensions and social security benefits for workers in Gibraltar, the Commons public accounts committee has disclosed.

The fresh case of vast spending on dependent territories follows the disclosure earlier this month by the National Audit Office, which reports to the committee, that a new ship for the south Atlantic island of St Helena cost Britain taxpayers more than £57 million.

The Foreign Office has announced a review of financial arrangements and the adequacy of financial regulations in dependent territories. The public accounts committee also wants to investigate the arrangements.

In the latest report, the committee said that if the government had solved the 20-year pension problem more quickly the bill might have been less. The difficulty arose from border disputes with Spain over Gibraltar and, subsequently, Spain's entry into the EC which left Britain responsible for payments to nearly 18,500 people.

## Smoking banned on Air Canada flights

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

THE one in five Air Canada passengers who smoke will have to choose another airline if they want to continue their habit on board from October 1.

The airline has decided to impose a smoking ban on all its transatlantic services and is the first airline to operate a completely smoke free cabin between North America and Europe.

Its decision pre-empts a ruling made by the Canadian government banning smoking on all Canadian-registered aircraft entirely in three years' time. Air Canada is launching a major marketing campaign aimed at wooing non-smokers.

It took the decision after

research which showed that 23 per cent of passengers on Atlantic routes smoked but that 35 per cent of these preferred to book a non-smoking seat and 72 per cent did not mind not smoking.

Canadian Airlines, the competitor, recently said that it would reduce the number of smoking seats available on transatlantic flights but could not do so on their lucrative Tokyo routes because so many Japanese insisted on smoking.

Air Canada has had to accept the commercial realities of some flights by refusing to implement the ban on services between London, Bombay and Singapore where more smokers are regular travellers.



Children from Manor Field school, Norwich, dance at The Royal Opera House yesterday under The Royal Ballet's scheme to bring dancers and pupils together

## Council's advertising ban ruled illegal

By MARK SOUSTER

A DECISION by Derbyshire county council to ban advertisements in *The Times Educational Supplement* and other publications owned by News International was declared vindictive, illegal and a flagrant abuse of power by a High Court judge yesterday.

Lord Justice Watkins, sitting with Mr Justice Tudor Evans, said that the "cynical" blanket ban should be quashed. An injunction restraining the Labour-controlled county council from acting on those decisions was granted. The council was also ordered to pay legal costs unofficially estimated at £40,000.

The action was brought by the TES, News International, Times Newspapers and Pauline Latham, a Conservative county councillor.

After the judgment David Bookbinder, the council leader, said that there had not been any vindictiveness on the part of the council and that it was taking advice on whether to appeal. "Derbyshire can be proud of its education service over the years," Mr Bookbinder said.

Norman Wilson, leader of the council's Conservative group, said that the judgment was so damning of individuals that they should consider whether to remain in public service. The Conservative

group is expected to ask the district auditor to investigate whether there is evidence of wilful misconduct. The council said that its decision to impose the bans, and to switch advertising from the TES to *The Guardian*, was taken only on educational grounds. Lord Justice Watkins said, however, that the real reason was that *The Sunday Times* had carried articles last September critical of Mr Bookbinder. "Such decision-making as that can only in the circumstances have been activated by bad faith or, in a word, vindictiveness," the judge said.

Advertising worth £61,610 a year was switched to *The Guardian* at an increased cost of £72,550 a year, in spite of the fact that an estimated 84,000 teachers read *The Guardian* compared with 235,000 who read the TES. Between October and December, 250 teaching posts were advertised by the council, but none in the TES.

The judge said that after deciding to sever links with News International publications, the council "set about trying to discover whether there was available the reality or semblance of a lawful excuse for that conduct. Obviously the Labour group took its decision being unaware of any lawful reason for it".

Council officials had the

"unenviable task" of having to produce a report which purported to show that the TES was no longer an effective publication for the advertisement of teaching posts, the judge said. All but two councillors displayed an unworthy lack of candour. The longer they were cross-examined "the more manifest it became that they were implausibly endeavouring to buttress the unsupportable", he said.

The judge said that it was a bad example of local authority maladministration which was potentially, if not actually, harmful to the interests of education in Derbyshire. It was also perverse because it had no sensible or justifiable basis. The ban, which had never been justified, was an abuse of power contrary to the public good.

Lord Justice Watkins said that during the hearing an illuminating light was shone on what seemed to be the cynical attitude of the councillors who voted for the ban. He was also critical of Mr Bookbinder around whom much of the controversy giving rise to the court action revolved. The judge said that although it would have been helpful, the court had neither read nor heard a word from Mr Bookbinder.

Law Report, page 36

# In one crucial respect British Telecom is falling behind.

In September British Telecom is revising some of its prices.

But the overall increase for main UK services will be only 5.3%.

Well below the current inflation rate of 9.8%.

Before these changes our prices in real terms had fallen by over 22% since 1984.

Over the same period international call prices had fallen by 25%. From September calls to over 100 overseas destinations will cost less.

In every other respect though, we've been moving ahead.

Last year alone we invested £3 billion improving our business. Providing the advanced telecommunications infrastructure that Britain needs.

Most aspects of our customer service have shown notable improvements. Over 92% of all faults are now cleared within one working day.

94% of orders for new equipment are completed on the date agreed with the customer. And 95% of payphones are now working.

There's still a lot to be done. But we're investing now to make sure that it is.

And, of course, to make sure that it's only our prices that get left behind.

For more details of our new prices please see the leaflet which you'll find enclosed with your telephone bill from 20 August or call your District Office contact number during normal working hours. (The number is shown on your telephone bill.)

Remember, too, that apart from weekends and evenings, cheap rates are now available only on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

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### LEE VALLEY WATER COMPANY SECTION 16, WATER ACT 1945 PROHIBITION OF USE OF HOSEPIPES

THE LEE VALLEY WATER COMPANY being of the opinion that a serious deficiency of water available for distribution by it exists GIVES NOTICE that with effect from Saturday, 21st July 1990, the use of a hosepipe or similar apparatus for either:-

watering private gardens or washing private motor cars, caravans or trailers IS PROHIBITED in the following areas:-

- The areas within the London Boroughs of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey supplied by Lee Valley Water Company;
- the parishes of Blackmore, Doddinghurst, Kelvedon Hatch, Navestock and Standon Massey, in the County of Essex;
- Leitchworth and Baldock and the parishes of Ashwell, Bygrave, Caldecote, Clothall, Hinxworth, Newnham, Radwell and Weston in the County of Hertfordshire, until further notice.

Any person found contravening this prohibition will be liable on conviction in a Magistrates Court to a fine not exceeding £400.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD  
P.W. DARBY  
COMPANY SECRETARY

## REGIONAL TRENDS

## POPULATION

## East Anglia still fastest growing and safest region

By RAY CLANCY

EAST Anglia has maintained its position as the fastest growing region, according to the latest edition of *Regional Trends*, the annual survey of life in Britain. The region also has the lowest rates of violence, burglary and theft, making it one of the most pleasant areas in which to live.

East Anglia showed the greatest regional population increase in Britain between 1981 and 1988, rising by 7.4 per cent. However, the population of the region's main town, Norwich, fell by 7 per cent, while the figure for people living in Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, rose by 18.2 per cent.

More women there had jobs in agriculture, fishing and forestry work than elsewhere in the country and 70 per cent of homes had regular use of a car. The South-West was the only region to have a higher percentage for use of cars.

There were declining populations in Scotland, the North, the North-West, Yorkshire and Humberside, but the reductions were not consistent in any one area. In the North-West, for example, the population of Burnley, Lancashire, fell by 9.3 per cent but the

population of Warrington, Cheshire, increased by 9.6 per cent. In Scotland, where there was an overall fall of 1.7 per cent, the population of the Shetland Islands dropped by 15.1 per cent, while the number of people in Kinross and Deeside, Grampian, rose by 15.4 per cent.

The survey includes district statistics for the first time, providing an intriguing insight into small pockets of the country. Forest Heath, Suffolk, had the highest proportion of children under five (9.5 per cent) and Worthing, West Sussex, had the highest percentage of people aged 75 and over (15.8 per cent).

Eden, in Cumbria, which has a population of 46,200, lives up to its name. With only 21 people per sq km, it has one of the lowest population densities in the country. There are more women than men in the district and only 507 people who are unemployed.

The survey also provides new statistics on the incidence of breath testing and the average court fines for drink or drug-related driving offences. In Yorkshire and Humberside 35 per cent of the 29,700 breath tests in 1988



Garden of Eden: Jennie Skingley, of Edenhall in the picturesque Eden valley, in Cumbria, an area of low unemployment and low population density.

were positive, compared with 12 per cent in the East Midlands, where 64,000 tests were positive. Average fines ranged from £201 in the southeast to £137 in the north.

The report also shows: ● The cheapest houses are in the North and Scotland. These are also the regions with the best driving test pass rates. People in Yorkshire and Humberside drank more alcohol and the South-West

were positive, compared with 12 per cent in the East Midlands, where 64,000 tests were positive. Average fines ranged from £201 in the southeast to £137 in the north.

could be the place to go if you are trying to stop smoking, since fewer people smoke there. ● The proportion of live births outside marriage doubled to 25 per cent between 1981 and 1988. Thirty-one per cent of births in the North-West were outside marriage in 1988, compared with 20 per cent in East Anglia and 16 per cent in Northern Ireland. ● More than 426 million

prescriptions were written in 1988, an average of 7.4 per person. The highest number were sent out in Wales, at 9.7 per cent per person, and the lowest in the north-west Thames area (5.8 per cent).

● Between 1986 and 1988 more than half the ethnic minority population lived in the southeast with other high proportions of these groups also in the West Midlands. ● More than 3.7 million

working days were lost last year because of industrial disputes. There were also 3.2 million self-employed people, a rise of 256,000 in 1988.

● The highest number of cattle and calves can be found in the South-West, although Scotland has the largest beef herd. This accounted for more than 30 per cent of the United Kingdom total for beef cattle. Wales had the highest number of sheep and lambs and Hum-

berside raised the most pigs. ● The North-West, East Midlands and the West Midlands were most reliant on manufacturing in 1988. They relied on industry for more than 30 per cent of gross domestic product, compared with 18 per cent in the southeast and 19 per cent in Northern Ireland.

Regional Trends 25 (Stationery Office, £21.50)

Leading article, page 13

## TRANSPORT

## Car owners increasing each year

By MICHAEL DYNES  
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

LEVELS of car ownership in Britain increased throughout the 1980s, according to the survey.

The number of vehicles per thousand population rose from 281 in 1981 to 324 in 1987, but national figures mask big regional variations. In spite of the increase, Britons still trail behind their West German, Italian, and French counterparts, who have recorded increased vehicle numbers of 463, 424, and 394 respectively per thousand over the same period.

The West Midlands, the South west and East Anglia have the highest levels of car ownership, with 384, 377, and 374 vehicles a thousand people respectively, while the North has only 254 a thousand.

The number of households with no car fell from 39 per cent in 1981 to 37 per cent in 1987, while the North, Yorkshire and Humberside and Scotland continue to have the highest percentage of households without use of a vehicle. The number of fatal or serious road accidents declined from 70,539 in 1981 to 60,197 in 1987, although England still has by far the highest accident rate, accounting for 49,911 of the 1987 total.

Richard Diment, deputy director of the British Road Federation, said: "If we had the levels of car ownership found in the more prosperous countries within the European Community, we would have 40 to 50 per cent more cars."

"It is clear from the experience of other EC countries that as the economy grows, the number of cars will also grow, and like those countries, we must improve our road network to cope," he said.

Jonathan Bray, the transport campaigner for Friends of the Earth, the environmental lobby group, said: "The continued increase in vehicle ownership is bad news for the environment as it will lead to more pollution and more road building proposals."

Mr Bray said that while vehicle ownership was higher on the Continent, people in Britain relied on cars more because of the poor public transport system.

## SPENDING

## Meat goes off menu as freezers move in

By RAY CLANCY

PEOPLE are eating less meat and more fresh fruit and vegetables, according to the survey. The number of dishwashers, tumble-driers and deep freezers, according to the survey.

Consumption of meat and meat products decreased in all regions apart from the South-West, where it has remained almost constant since 1981. The largest falls were recorded in East Anglia and the South-East. In the West Midlands 39.7oz of meat were eaten per person each week, making the residents the most enthusiastic carnivores, compared with 34.8oz in East Anglia and the South-East.

The Welsh ate the most potatoes and people in Scotland ate the most bread, butter, sugar and eggs. Residents of Yorkshire and Humberside had the sweetest tooth for cakes and biscuits, but they also consumed more fish than anybody else. However, people in all regions apart from Scotland ate fewer vegetables. The English ate an

average of 86.1oz of vegetables per person each week in 1981, falling to 83.1oz in 1988. In Wales the amount dropped from 97.9oz to 90.2, but in Scotland it increased from 78.2 to 82.5oz.

Homes in Northern Ireland spent £18.30 a week on clothing and footwear, about 9.2 per cent of the average weekly budget, and more than any other region. The average size of household in Northern Ireland, three people, was the highest in Britain. The average weekly household income in

1987-1988 ranged from £338 in the South-East to £122 in Northern Ireland where a higher proportion was spent on fuel, light and power than in any other region.

There were more dishwashers in the South-East than elsewhere and the number of households which could boast this commodity almost doubled from 6 per cent in 1981 to 11 per cent in 1988, but only 3 per cent had a dishwasher in the North. In Great Britain as a whole, 73 per cent of households had a

freezer, compared with 47 per cent in 1981, and the number of tumble-driers increased from an average of 22 per cent of households to 37 per cent over the same period.

Almost every household now has a television although around a tenth have black-and-white sets only. Most homes also have telephones, with the lowest distribution found in the north (75 per cent) and Northern Ireland (72 per cent). Microwaves, home computers and videos were included in the statistics.

## PERSONAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	Micro wave	Washing machine	Tumble-drier	Dish-washer	Deep freezer	Colour tv	Video	Home computer	Central heating
Great Britain	26	83	37	7	73	89	42	17	72
North	27	88	36	3	66	87	40	18	79
York/Humber	27	88	36	3	66	87	40	18	79
East Midlands	27	88	36	3	66	87	40	18	79
East Anglia	26	83	41	9	78	89	37	18	77
South East	28	78	39	11	78	89	46	18	70
South West	27	81	37	9	76	89	38	19	70
West Midlands	25	82	35	5	71	88	39	16	64
North West	25	83	35	5	71	90	41	18	68
Wales	27	82	33	5	73	89	35	14	70
Scotland	21	83	31	7	64	81	43	16	63
N Ireland	17	81	32	7	51	87	30	11	68

SCOTLAND: Biggest mainland consumers of bread, butter and eggs; Falling population - down by 1.7% in 1981-88; Least home ownership; Fewest cars.

NORTH WEST: Highest illegitimacy rate; Worst fraud, forgery and damage rates in England and Wales; Joint top spenders on alcohol and tobacco; Highest mainland spending per person on supplementary benefits.

NORTHERN IRELAND: Cheapest houses; Lowest cars; Highest spenders on clothing and shoes; Biggest households.

WALES: Lowest earnings for men in full-time work; Most potatoes eaten - 44.5oz per person each week; Lowest robbery rate for England and Wales; Sparsest population except Scotland and Ulster.

SOUTH WEST: Biggest consumers of milk, cream and cheese; Highest home ownership rate; Biggest proportion of women workers predicted for 2000; Least smokers - 28%.

THE NORTH: Highest crime rate in England and Wales; Cheapest mainland house prices; Falling population - down by 1.5% in 1981-88; Least likely to have a dishwasher, freezer or phone.

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE: Highest rate of violent attacks in England and Wales; Most alcohol drunk per person in England and Wales; Highest number of pigs - 1.8 million; Joint highest number of washing machines.

EAST MIDLANDS: Lowest pay for full-time women workers; Joint second highest home-ownership rate; Rising population - up by 3.1% in 1981-88; Most likely to have a video and microwave.

EAST ANGLIA: Lowest crime rate in England and Wales; Biggest population increase - 7.4% in 1981-88; The most privately rented or tied housing; Least likely to consult GP or suffer long-standing illness; Equal second lowest number of smokers.

SOUTH EAST: Highest earnings for men and women; Most expensive housing - £74,000 on average in 1988; Most share owners; Highest proportion of ethnic minorities; Worst crime clear-up rate - 25% in 1988 - in England and Wales.

WEST MIDLANDS: Most meat eaten - 39.7 oz per person a week; Highest stillbirth rate; Lowest fraud and forgery rate; Least likely to have central heating.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

## Recorded crime rates are highest in the North

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

EAST Anglia and the South-West, regions with relatively low population densities, below average unemployment and historically agrarian economies, have the lowest recorded crime rates in England, while the North and North-West have the highest, according to the survey.

Traditionally, the South-West has had the best figures, but between 1981 and 1987 recorded crime in the region rose by 36 per cent, leaving East Anglia, which only saw a 17 per cent increase in the same period, as the most law-abiding region. The biggest rise was seen in the North where recorded crime rose by 39 per cent.

With 7,424 recorded crimes per 100,000 population England has the worst national record, followed by Wales (6,927 crimes) and Northern Ireland (3,542). Relevant comparisons cannot be made with Scotland because of differences in recording practices. Police staffing levels echo the recorded crime pattern, with East Anglia having

one police officer for every 540 residents. In the Metropolitan Police area, there was one officer for every 257 residents in 1988.

Crime solving statistics were most discouraging in the South-East, where just 25 per cent of all notifiable offences were solved. In the North and the West Midlands, however, 43 per cent of recorded crimes were cleared up. Clear-up rates were generally high in all regions for assaults and sexual offences.

Thirty-five per cent of all recorded offences in England were cleared up, compared with 42 per cent in Wales and 45 per cent in Northern Ireland. Unsurprisingly, by far the highest number of drug seizures were made in the densely populated and affluent South-East. In 1988 police and customs made 1,391 seizures of Class A drugs, such as heroin and cocaine, in the region and 15,204 seizures of Class B narcotics such as cannabis.

The report shows an increasing number of children

becoming involved in crime especially burglary, robbery and theft. In Yorkshire and Humberside, for every 100,000 10-13 year olds there were 2,150 cases resulting in a conviction or formal warning and in the North there were 2,038. The problem was least widespread in the South East where there were 909 cases per 100,000 in that age group.

## HOUSING

## Land prices rocket in property boom

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

THE growth of the property boom, before it burst in 1988, is vividly illustrated in the housing statistics in a comparison of housing land and house prices between 1981 and 1988.

The price of housing land, an important component in the cost of a house, went up in Greater London from £327,500 a hectare (2.471 acres) in 1981 to £883,400 in 1987, a dramatic increase so far, but then like a rocket in the next year to £2,431 million, which helps to explain the explosion in house prices.

In the South-East, the land price increased from £210,900 a hectare in 1981 to £669,900 in 1987 and £1,094,400 in 1988, and in East Anglia, which had some of the most spectacular house price rises in the 1980s, the land price went up from £41,100 a hectare in 1981 to £205,300 in 1987, with another leap to £419,900 in 1988.

From 1981-1988 the price of new houses showed the highest increase in the South-East outside Greater London, with a rise of 172 per cent, followed by East Anglia (160

## EDUCATION

## Ulster A-level students cleverest all-round

By DAVID TYTLER  
EDUCATION EDITOR

THE cleverest all-round 18-year-olds come from Northern Ireland while the best young French speakers are Scottish girls, according to the education figures in the survey.

In Northern Ireland in 1988, 17.5 per cent of girls and 15.2 per cent of boys left school with at least three A-levels compared to 8 per cent of all pupils in the North. Further down the school, however, Northern Ireland pupils did less well with 26.6 per cent of boys and 15.9 per cent of girls leaving school without any qualification compared to 6.8 per cent and 4.9 per cent in the south-west.

Girls from Scotland achieved the highest number of top three grades in GCSE French with a pass rate of 26.7 per cent, which was twice as good as their male counterparts. The poorest French result was produced by Welsh boys who could muster only 6.2 per cent, while the bottom place in the girls' table fell to pupils in Wales and the North who scored 14.8 per cent.

French was the only GCSE subject that showed marked variations across the regions. The average pass rate for English across the country was 35.6 per cent, 37 per cent for mathematics, 22.2 per cent for physics, 19.1 per cent for geography, 17 per cent for chemistry, 13.8 per cent for history, 13 per cent for biology, 2.4 per cent for general science and 11.8 per cent pass rate for pupils studying French.

Scottish teenagers were more likely to be taught in smaller groups than pupils elsewhere, with an overall pupil-teacher ratio of 12.7 to one, compared to 16.1 to one in the south-west.

Their brothers and sisters in primary schools also fared well with a 20.3 to one ratio, compared to 25.5 to one in Northern Ireland. Class sizes, however, were standard across the country, with about 30 pupils in secondary schools and 26 in primary schools.

Parents needing day-care nurseries for their children found a big difference from region to region. In Northern Ireland and the north in 1988 there were about 14 places for every 100 children, while in East Anglia and the south-west there were 25.

The number of students staying at school after the age of 16 is generally rising, with a national average of 65.4 per cent. There are, however, considerable regional variations.

These range from 76.9 per cent in Scotland to 59.6 per cent in the south-east. Women throughout the country seem much keener on adult education than men with about twice as many signing on for part-time courses.

## Few water cases in court

FOR 23,952 reported water pollution incidents in England and Wales in 1988 there were 307 prosecutions - one in 80. These included 8,214 industrial incidents with 117 prosecutions; 4,888 sewage incidents with six prosecutions; and 3,940 farm incidents with 173 prosecutions.

Both the housing stock and owner-occupancy has increased in all regions. In 1988 the highest proportions of owner-occupancy were in the South-East (excluding Greater London) (73 per cent), and the South-West (72 per cent). The lowest proportions were in Scotland (45 per cent), Northern Ireland and the North (58 per cent) and Greater London (59 per cent).

Figures also indicate clearly the growing number of homeless people. In Greater London in 1988-89, 28 per cent of council house lettings went to secure tenants who had been accepted as homeless under the provisions of homeless legislation and a further 12 per cent were new secure tenants from the ordinary waiting lists. For England as a whole 15 per cent had been accepted as homeless and 34 per cent were from waiting lists.

## Spending on the arts doubles to more than £3 billion

By SIMON TAIT  
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

AT £3.35 billion, Britons were spending more than twice as much on cultural activities at the end of the 1980s than they were at the beginning, and taking it home to enjoy it, according to the Policy Studies Institute.

It means, William Daniel, the director of the institute said, that the arts and culture are an increasingly important part of the UK economy, estimated to be worth more than £10 billion and to be as large as the car industry. A new review of spending on the arts and cultural industries published today

by the institute, an independent research body which sifts all published statistics to draw a trend, shows that consumers were spending a third more on cultural goods and services as a proportion of their expenditure at the end of the decade than at the beginning, with the boom in video and compact discs being a big contributor.

Video hire, worth £283 million when it was first measured in 1984, was worth £478 million in 1988. The market in pre-recorded video cassettes rose from £15 million spent in 1985 to £150 million in 1988, before doubling to £300 million last year. Compact

discs, attracting a mere £7 million in 1984, were drawing £288 million from music lovers in 1988.

Children's programmes are bought more than any other video cassettes, comedy films are rented most, and classical compact discs sales are lower than pop sales, with disco music sales beating rock music. However, the live arts, which are much easier to identify, have been high on the public shopping list, too. The value of admissions to live arts events rose from £170 million in 1980 to £440 million in 1988. The yield from cinema admissions went up from £147 million to only £190 million in the

same period, a rate of less than half the increase in incomes and just over half the retail prices increase. Although ticket prices for the performing arts have risen by between 63 per cent and 217 per cent - at an average of more than 120 per cent - against an 80 per cent retail price rise and a 100 per cent increase in incomes, attendances for live performances have remained steady.

In the case of opera, the supposed elitist art form where average prices have risen by almost three times over the decade, the public's response has been to increase attendances by an average of 7 per cent.

The West End theatre, which has experienced not only the phenomenon of the blockbuster musicals but also a big increase in the numbers of overseas tourists in the decade, took more than twice as much in 1988, at £110 million, as the £50 million of 1984.

All drama earned £150 million through the box office in 1988, compared with £76 million in 1984, with attendance figures staying more or less the same.

Cultural Trends in the 80s (PSI, 100 Park Village East, London NW1 3SR; £5.95)

Leading article, page 13

Pris  
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PRISON statistics are  
England and Wales are  
to see. European are  
of are generally worse  
than of countries with  
more prison space  
available to the courts  
according to the Council  
of Europe.

Almost every settlement  
in England and Wales has  
at least one prison and  
the highest concentration  
is in the south-east, follow-  
ed by the North-East, the  
North-West, the Midlands  
and the South-West. The  
highest number of 43  
prisons is in the south-east,  
where the average number  
of prisoners per prison is  
1,500. The lowest is in the  
North-East, where the  
average is 1,100.

Freed from  
cells to  
build jail

PROBATION officers are  
being asked to help  
build a new type of  
prison. A probation officer  
will be in charge of the  
prison and the prisoners  
will be given a choice of  
work. The idea is to  
reduce the number of  
prisoners who are  
sent to prison for a  
second time.

The idea is to help  
prisoners to get back  
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Ulster  
A-level  
students  
cleverest  
all-round

# Prison staffing in Britain 'below west European average'

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

PRISON staffing levels in England and Wales are below the west European average and are generally worse than those of countries with high-standard prison systems, according to the Council of Europe.

A survey of staffing ratios in 13 council states found Sweden to have the best levels, with almost one prison officer for every inmate, followed by the Republic of Ireland, Denmark and The Netherlands, all countries with fairly stable jails. England and Wales, with an average ratio of 43 officers to every 100 prisoners, was below average, while Turkey was bottom of the table with a staff-inmate ratio of 1:5.

France, which with Britain

has the most riot-prone jails in Europe, was third from bottom with a ratio of 27 uniformed staff to every 100 inmates, according to the survey by the council's committee for co-operation in prison affairs.

The Prison Officers' Association (POA), which is in dispute with the Home Office over staffing levels, said that the survey removed the smokescreen the Home Office had made by repeatedly highlighting big increases in staffing.

The union said that the real position in English and Welsh jails is even worse than that suggested by the council's research because of the 1,000 officers who have to be diverted from jails each day to ferry prisoners to court. In West Germany, where prison regimes are better even though staffing ratios are poorer than in England and Wales, escort duties are carried out by a separate state agency, it said.

David Evans, vice-chairman of the POA, said: "The Woolf enquiry will be extremely interested to learn that Britain's jails actually have below average staffing levels despite all the capital the Home Office has been making out of its recruitment drive since 1987." He said that prison officers in comparable west European countries were also often better trained.

Penal reformers said that the survey also took no account of the time prison officers spent on activities such as censoring mail. The POA believes censorship remains a useful security tool, as well as providing clues which could help staff prevent suicides. Penal reformers and Judge Tumm, Chief Inspector of Prisons for England and Wales, however, think that

such tasks unnecessarily divert staff from regime-building activities.

Paul Cavadino, of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said that providing decent regimes generally presupposed higher staffing levels, although avoiding tasks such as escorting inmates to court was also important.

The POA, which has a mandate to order national industrial action in jails to press its case for more staff, was to have a second round of negotiations with management yesterday. The union is calling for an extra 600 officers and reappraisal of individual jails.

A Home Office spokeswoman said a further fall in the jail population since the spring, combined with on-going recruitment, meant there was now, on average, 50 officers for every 100 inmates. She said an unprecedented drive was underway to improve the physical fabric of the prison estate and regime standards, but added: "There is no proven correlation between staffing levels and jail disturbances."

"For many prisoners there is of more concern than extra staff on wings is whether they can use a payphone and relaxation of censorship. These are things we are working hard at."

She said critics of the system had to give some credit to the government's massive prison investment programme that started in 1979. Nearly £300 million would be spent on new buildings and £150 million on refurbishment this year. Accurate comparisons between countries were impossible to make, she said, because of such factors as the differing extent to which prison jobs were civilised.

## PRISON STAFFING LEVELS IN EUROPE

	Prisoners	Prison officers	Officers per 100 inmates
Sweden	3,966	3,750	94.6
Irish Republic	1,936	1,474	76.1
Denmark	3,360	2,355	70.1
Netherlands	4,906	3,018	61.5
Italy	42,990	22,890	53.5
Malta	95	50	52.6
Belgium	6,625	3,383	51.1
Norway	2,017	986	48.9
England/Wales*	46,984	20,360	43.0
West Germany	53,619	20,261	37.8
Greece	3,803	1,300	29.2
France	48,370	12,666	26.2
Portugal	8,893	1,893	21.5
Turkey	52,401	10,480	20.0

\* April 1, 1989

## Riot prisoners beaten after surrendering, Woolf told

PRISONERS surrendering at a riot-torn remand centre were punched on the face and body by prison officers, the Woolf enquiry was told yesterday.

Other officers held the inmates' arms as they were punched, an unnamed prisoner said in evidence to the eighth day of the hearing at Taunton, Somerset. The prisoner, identified as P1, said he saw about 15 prisoners attacked and that he heard the screams of other inmates as they were beaten in the A block of the adjoining women's section of Pucklechurch remand centre, near Bristol.

He said he watched the beatings through a letter-box flap on his cell where he was placed after he had surrendered earlier. They allegedly

took place in the corridor outside his cell. He denied making the allegations to get back at prison officers, though he admitted that he had frequently been on reports for disruptive behaviour.

He agreed that he had made allegations against a named officer with whom he had been in trouble but denied that the allegations were personal, claiming the officer was generally disliked. Barry Cotter, counsel for the Prison Officers' Association, denied the specific allegations. He challenged the prisoner's ability to see alleged assaults clearly through the door flap.

He suggested that when the flap was down the prisoner could only assume that beatings were taking place. He also suggested that prisoners were

perhaps only resisting officers' restraint methods. The prisoner said: "They were screaming and the only assumption I could make was that they were getting hit by officers."

Lord Justice Woolf and his assessors are taking evidence into the disturbance at Pucklechurch on April 22 and 23 which followed riots at prisons at Dartmoor, Bristol and Cardiff. The enquiry has examined the Strangeways riot.

Prisoner P1 said he had been on remand in Pucklechurch since November. "Everybody in the prison was getting excited because of Strangeways. The day the riot started we were short of staff and the inmates took advantage of that and that's why it started."

The hearing continues today.

## Isle of Man elects first president

By RONALD FAUX

ANOTHER vestige of empire has slipped from the Isle of Man with the election of the island's first president. Sir Charles Kerruish will in future preside over Tynwald, the Manx parliament, in place of the island's Lieutenant Governor, Sir Laurence New, who is appointed by the Queen.

Under the constitutional changes, the island will remain a Crown dependency but the election of a president strengthens the degree of autonomy which the Manx government enjoys. Although the logical end to that road would be independence, this is not something the Isle of Man can afford in the foreseeable future in spite of its growing attraction as an offshore financial centre.

Sir Charles, aged 72, has been a member of the House of Keys since 1946. He has been its speaker since 1962, making him one of the Commonwealth's longest serving speakers.

Although constitutionally the island owes no allegiance to Parliament, the grey area of good government still rests with Whitehall.

Professor St John Bates, the clerk of Tynwald said, however, that there was no political mood for independence.

## Tenants win community enterprise scheme award

By CHARLES KNEVITT, ARCHITECTURE CORRESPONDENT

A TRAINING and community centre run by tenants from council estates in Fort Glasgow, Strathclyde, has won the top award in the fifth annual Community Enterprise Scheme, sponsored by The Times, the Royal Institute of British Architects and Business in the Community.

Fifteen other awards have been made and there are 11 commendations and 16 honourable mentions from more than 1,000 entries.

The Prince of Wales, the scheme's patron, was due to present the awards today, at the RIBA headquarters in London, but is unable to attend after breaking his right arm in a polo accident. Lord Scarman, chairman, will present them on his behalf.

The 400 delegates will, however, hear the prince's speech; it was video-taped at Highgrove, his home in Gloucestershire, on Tuesday. The prince expresses his disappointment at not being able to attend and invites the main winners to visit him at Highgrove later this month.

The Port Glasgow scheme, called The Factory, which also caters for small businesses, receives the Charles Douglas-Home Award for the most outstanding entry and a prize of £5,000. The other winners

## Ely cathedral is reaping benefits of commercialism

By JOHN YOUNG

ELY cathedral, the great Ship of the Fens riding above the flat Cambridgeshire countryside, is one of the noblest sights in England. It is, however, a ship struggling to stay afloat, faced with ever-growing bills for the restoration and maintenance of its fabric.

Four years ago Ely became the first and, so far, the only English cathedral to charge admission. The move was controversial, but Canon Dennis Green, the cathedral's vice-dean and treasurer, insists that it has been a great success.

"In 1984-5 we were facing a crisis. The general fund which finances the day-to-day running of the cathedral had an annual deficit of £100,000."

"We begged visitors to give £1 each, but the average donation was 32p. Each of the 250,000 visitors a year was costing us 4p. We were in the agonising position of either being the first cathedral to close its doors and lay off staff, or to start charging."

Canon Green has also established with the Inland Revenue that the building is open as a business for 90 per cent of the time. That means that he can claim back almost all the VAT on repairs.

Canon Green was a businessman before taking orders, and strongly believes that the Church of England must adopt a hard-headed commercial approach. In 1986 it became clear that the roof of the nave was in serious danger of collapse. An appeal ten years earlier had raised more than £1 million, most of which was spent on repairs to the West Tower.

Canon Green had calculated that this time he needed £4 million. The money was raised in just over a year, and paid for the most extensive renovation in the history of the cathedral. Before it was completed, however, the famous Octagon was damaged by gales last

January, costing a further £1.3 million.

The medieval buildings surrounding the cathedral also need £2 million spent on them. Many have been put to new uses as a restaurant and tea rooms. The old choir school has been converted into an attractive row of shops.

The care of cathedrals measure, given its second reading in the Commons on Monday night, brings cathedrals under the equivalent of listed buildings control, but makes no provision for funding. Whether Ely has set an example for others to emulate is the subject of continuing debate.

## MPs call for random breath tests

Government opposition to random breath testing represented a missed opportunity in the campaign to reduce casualties from road accidents, the Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety said yesterday.

Random breath testing was a cost effective measure, capable of making a big contribution to the government's target of reducing road casualties by a third within 10 years, the group said in its annual report. It wants the measure to be given legislative backing.

## Ballet guest

Galina Samsova, the ballerina and teacher, today joins Scottish Ballet as guest director for six months during which she will help to present the company's autumn season entitled *Ballets of Love and Longing*.

## Drugs charge

Six men were remanded in custody yesterday at a special hearing at Sittingbourne police station, Kent, charged with illegally importing 60 kilos of amphetamine sulphate, the drug speed, worth £6 million.

## Libel win

Lynn Higgins yesterday accepted substantial undisclosed libel damages over a *Daily Mirror* story in which her former husband, Alex "Hurricane" Higgins, alleged she had spent £22,000 in six weeks. The paper withdrew the allegation.

## New town plan

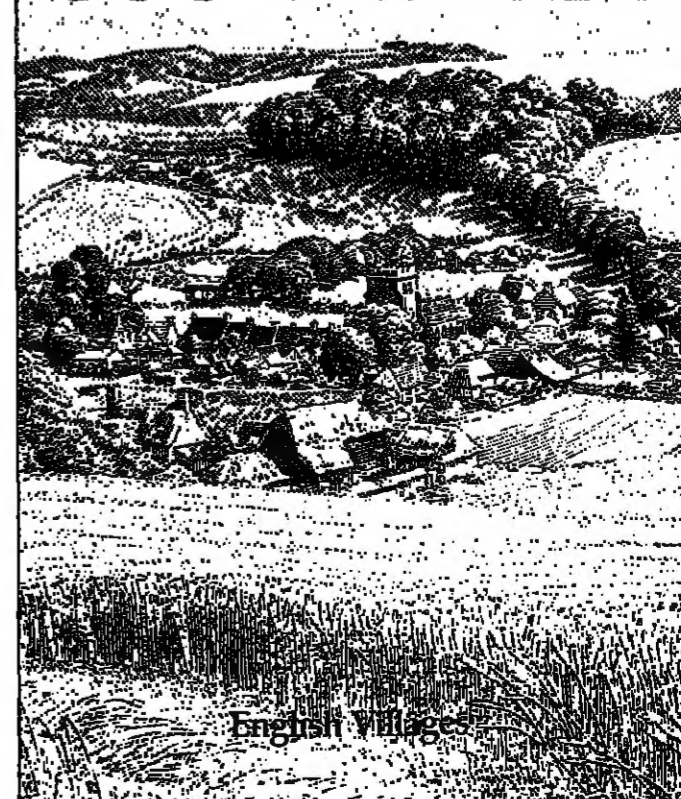
A £200 million scheme for a new town at Acaster airfield, south of York, was unveiled yesterday. Shepherd Homes of York wants to build 2,250 houses.

## Green milk

Sales of Unigate's organically-produced "green top" milk have been so successful in a pilot scheme in Torbay, Devon, that it is to be sold nationwide.

## English Villages

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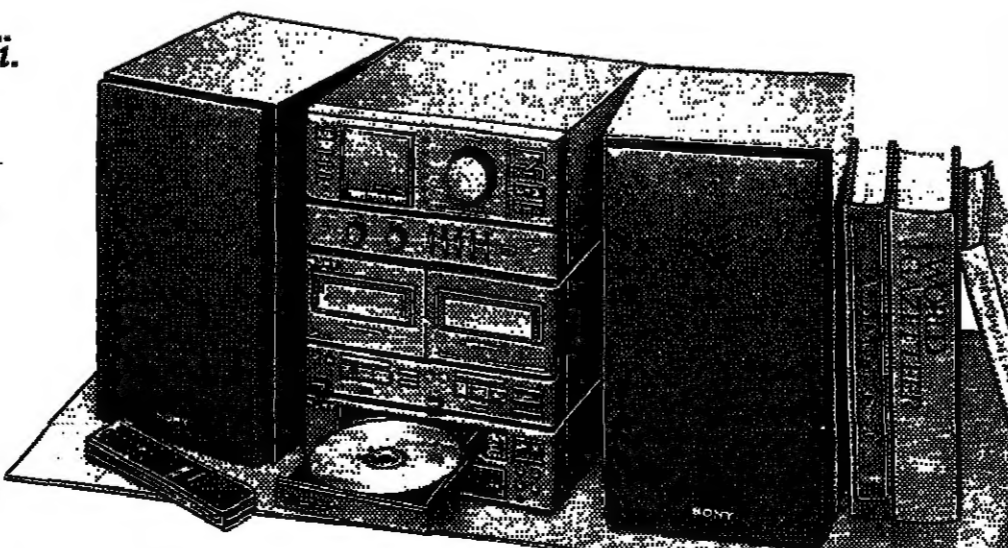
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# Unsackable duo steadying Tory nerves

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

Political class shows in times of trouble. There are two reasons why Conservative nerves remain so surprisingly unfrayed after the Ridley affair despite the Prime Minister's dithering over dispensing with the services of an old friend: one is called Douglas Hurd, the other John Major.

Entrusted with the task of settling things down, Mr Hurd's *On the Record* performance was magisterial. He was calm and authoritative without being bland. He actually answered questions.

John Major faced a different problem at the backbench finance committee on Tuesday night. Tory MPs have seen the gap in the polls come down from 24 to 11 per cent as the poll tax effect has been largely stripped out. They wanted reassurance that the next 10 per cent or so, which most attribute to economic factors, would soon begin to melt away too.

Mr Major offered them no such reassurance. Instead, he came with a warning that interest rates must stay up a while yet, that inflation may yet go up before it comes down and that they should not look to him for a pre-election "boomlet". But that did not stop them giving him a desk-banging round of applause because he had demonstrated genuine authority. They trust him enough to give him time.

In backbench conversation about Tory leadership possibilities, Mr Hurd and Mr Major figure well ahead of the field, and what is men-

tioned most, if it is not always articulated as such, is the sheer political quality of the pair. Both have always been regarded as sound men, but there used to be question marks about their command of the baser arts of politics. Could they wheel and deal?

John Major may be ruling out a contrived pre-election boomlet, but he has shown himself to be a deeply political chancellor. It showed in the framing of a Budget that was a compendium of politically guided measures such as the football clubs concession, not one to please the City.

The Tory recovery in the polls owes as much to the relief he engineered over the set of inflation figures immediately afterwards as it did to Kenneth Baker's handling of the local government election results. Anyone who doubted his ability to wheel and deal has only to look at the arrangements he stitched together with the French at the May IMF meeting in Washington, which finished with the French getting a concession from Britain on IMF quotas and Mr Major securing for London the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Above all else, Mr Major has remained accessible to backbenchers. Few can recall a chancellor so available.

Douglas Hurd was a proven diplomat before his political career began. The doubts in his case centred more on his ability to reach outside the chattering classes. But anecdotal evidence is that, in a toffish kind of

way, he is doing so, helped by a genuine gift for the felicitous phrase. When he talked of Neil Kinnock being "a feather blown by any wind" or "a man of essential emptiness" he zoomed in precisely on the Labour leader's image problem. When on Soviet aid he said: "The trouble with the Russians is that they've got holes in their pockets which need stitching up first" he made sense of what seemed previously to be a grudging refusal to help President Gorbachev.

Where Douglas Hurd and John Major have really demonstrated their political agility is in moving the prime minister on Europe. She has accepted the logic of being nicer to the Europeans. Steadily she has ceased to fight unwinnable battles. Ah yes, but Geoffrey Howe and Nigel Lawson moved her on Europe, and look what happened to them.

There is a difference, however. Hurd and Major manage to influence the prime minister without creating the same tensions. They do so partly because she does not suspect either of them of manoeuvring for her job while she still wants it. They manage it partly because they are closer to her position than would sometimes appear. Mr Major is entirely convinced of the merits of ERM entry. But he is opposed as she is to full monetary union. Mr Hurd may have been a Heath man. But his experiences as Home Secretary, battling for secure European barriers against

terrorists and drug smugglers, left him far from starry-eyed about Brussels.

Talk of a Hurd-Major axis is exaggerated, though. They have climbed the ladder different ways. Hurd went to Eton, Major to Rutlish Grammar. One is the Tory party of old, the other that of today. But they are as nearly

unsackable as Thatcher ministers can be. They are lucky in that Labour's conversion has transformed the politics of the ERM and Nicholas Ridley has helped their case. And when two such popular baritone voices sing in unison the prime minister knows she would be foolish not to heed the song.



Major and Hurd: a pair of trusted political animals

# Community care delay condemned by Labour

THE government decision to delay full implementation of its community care proposals was roundly condemned by Opposition MPs when it was announced in the Commons yesterday.

Robin Cook, shadow health secretary, said that the statement had removed all doubt that elderly and disabled people came at the bottom of Treasury spending commitments.

Kenneth Clarke, health secretary, had defended his decision to phase in the new proposals by saying that local authorities would not be able to cope and that phasing was necessary to protect community charge payers.

Mr Cook said that the statement would be greeted almost universally with anger for its neglect of the most vulnerable and with contempt for the broken promises that it left behind and the cowardice with which Mr Clarke had sought to palm off the blame on local authorities.

If Mr Clarke could not get the resources from the Treasury, why not put into care in the community the hundreds of millions of pounds he was pouring into his plans to commercialise the National Health Service?

Amid Tory protests, Mr Cook asked: "How many elderly people will be put on the streets by then by home owners who

## HEALTH

have given up waiting for this government to honour its commitment to those elderly people?"

The shameful statement broke the commitment that Mr Clarke had made repeatedly to the House. In a more honourable period the statement would have ended with his resignation.

Mr Clarke said that last week Mr Cook had been reported as saying that local authorities would require £1.5 billion more next year to implement social service policies, a 40 per cent increase, but had given no indication from where that money was to come. The suggestion was unlikely to have been authorised by Labour's Treasury spokesmen.

The system relating to those at present in homes would continue for the next two years. The government was spending £1 billion in support of people in residential homes. It had put unprecedented sums of money into care for the elderly, disabled, mentally ill and mentally handicapped for those in private and public sector homes.

His announcement had been made in the light of the irresponsible behaviour of largely socialist local authorities which could not keep their policies within reasonable cost.

Sir David Price (Eastleigh, C) said that phasing of the new enhanced policies was at last facing reality.

Mr Clarke said that an enormous demand had to be met by care in the community policies. Resources and management arrangements had to be in place to meet priority needs without placing a burden on charge payers that they could not afford.

Frank Field (Birkenhead, Lab) asked whether these bodies that had believed the government and had got community care projects up and running would be told that no extra funds were available and would therefore find themselves stranded and bankrupt?

Mr Clarke said that voluntary bodies opening day centres would still be receiving income support topped up either by their charitable funds or from local authorities. Income support would continue.

Archy Kirkwood, Liberal Democrat welfare spokesman, said that the millions of people requiring care, who were now to have misery inflicted on them for another two years, had been added to the list of casualties resulting from the introduction of the poll tax.

Mr Clarke said that the Children Act, the new school curriculum and the Food Act were new responsibilities for local authorities. It was commonsense not to add to that list next year.

Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C) said that there was bound to be a sense of disillusion among directors of social services and a demoralising effect on social workers who had been busy preparing for implementation next April in accordance with Mr Clarke's assurances.

Mr Clarke said that he had expected disappointment from those who had worked hard to prepare new plans. "We have done our best to ensure that the momentum is maintained."

# Clarke puts blame on high poll tax

THE delay in the government's proposals for care in the community had been brought about by the levels of community charge being announced by local authorities, the health secretary, Kenneth Clarke, said in the debate that came after his statement.

He was replying to a Labour motion calling on the government to go ahead with the full community programme next April, with adequate funding. He said that what was dividing the House was the belief of the Opposition that it was right to go ahead despite the difficulties of preparation and the impact on the community charge.

The community charge levels had to be taken into account, particularly when local government spending had risen by a quarter in the past two years.

Robin Cook said that local

# Enter left battling lady, in a dudgeon

Lady Castle of Blackburn (below), the former Mrs Barbara Castle, refused to wear the traditional three-cornered hat or to kneel during her introduction ceremony in the House of Lords (John Lewis writes).

Before the ceremony she had been involved in what she later described as a "frightening row" with Black Rod, Sir John Gilling.

The former Labour minister said: "I did say I was not going to wear this cocked hat nonsense and that I should look a fool in it. At one stage I refused to wear the robe, but I did agree this was manageable. I said I would carry the hat."

Lady Castle also refused to kneel during the ceremony. She said that she knelt to no one and anyway she might not be able to get up. Of not wearing the hat, she said: "You don't ruin a shampoo and set with a hat."



## Waiting in comfort

Refurbishment of the London passport office in Petty France, Westminster, including redecoration, new floor covering, seating, lighting and new lavatories, is almost complete, Peter Lloyd, under secretary, Home Office, said in a written reply. Pictorial displays are being considered.

## Trident praise

The programme to replace the Polaris strategic nuclear deterrent with Trident is on time and within budget and continues to make satisfactory progress towards its in-service date of the mid-1990s, Alan Clark, the defence procurement minister, said in a written reply.

## Lilley arrives

Peter Lilley was given a warm welcome from Conservative backbenchers when he answered Commons questions for the first time as trade and industry secretary. In turn, he paid tribute to Nicholas Ridley, who preceded him in the post.

## Cars law

The transport department is to seek a change in the law at the earliest opportunity to make it an offence to sell an unroadworthy vehicle. Robert Atkins, roads and traffic minister, said in a Commons written reply.

## Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Northern Ireland; prime minister. Debate on motion to approve the permanent televising of the Commons. Lords (3): Broadcasting bill, committee, fourth day.

# Pros Pol F leads policy

Kenya sees foreign role in riots

# Kenya sees foreign role in riots

Kenya's foreign minister, Mr James Njiru, said yesterday that the country was not involved in the recent riots in London. He said that the riots were the result of a combination of factors, including the high unemployment rate in Kenya and the influx of refugees from Somalia. He said that the Kenyan government was doing its best to deal with the situation and that it was not involved in the riots.

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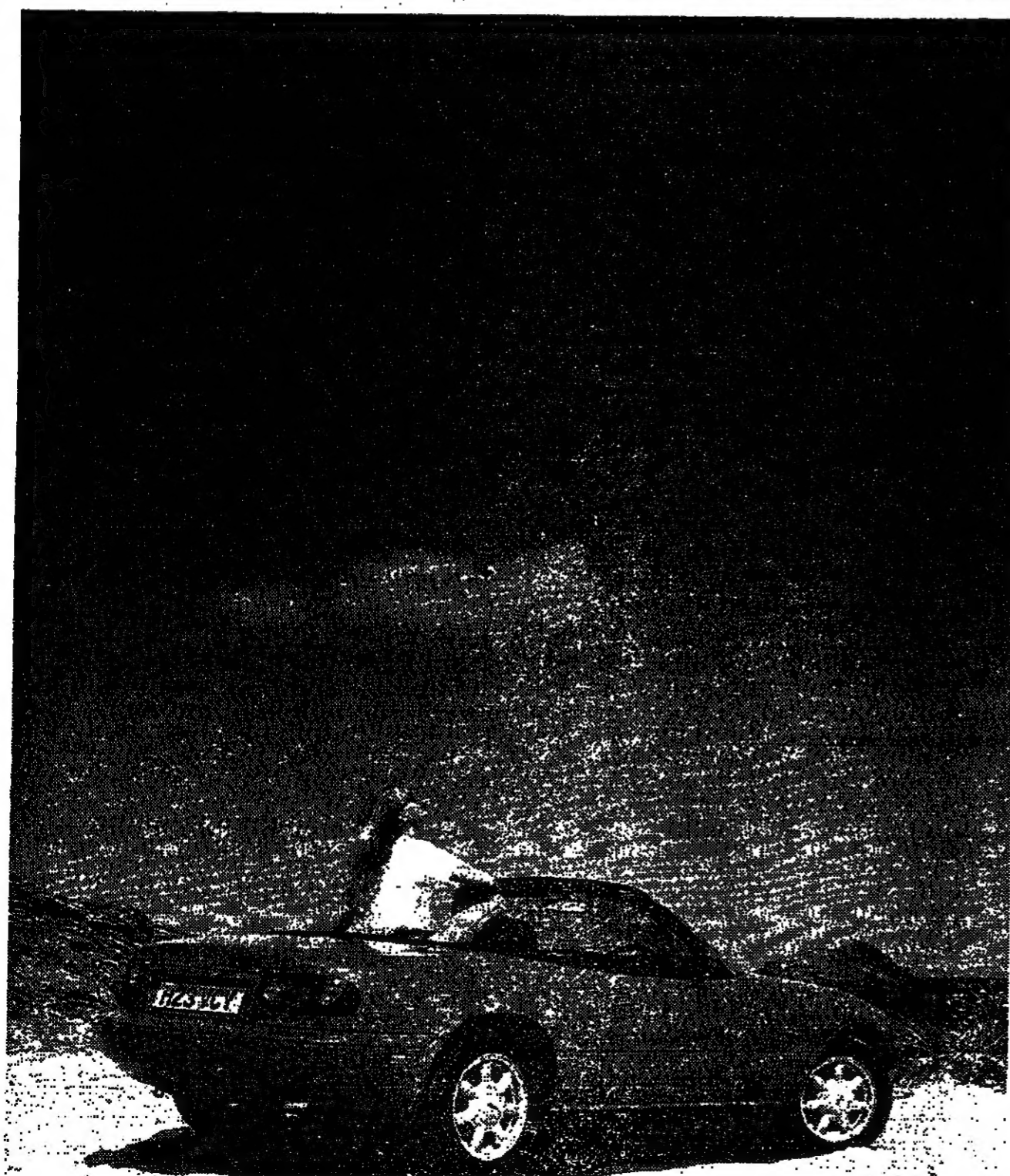
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# Prospect of Pol Pot rule leads to US policy switch

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PARIS

ELEVEN years later the full horror of the Khmer Rouge is now to be reflected in American foreign policy.

Once, they ruled a Cambodia in which using a toothbrush or wearing spectacles was a capital offence, a sign of bourgeois tendency. Now the Khmer Rouge show Cambodians in remote villages Thai soap operas on portable video and pay them gold or dollars for their rice.

But there is no reason to believe they have fundamentally changed. The British-made film *The Killing Fields* did much to influence popular opinion about the true nature of the Nazis of Asia, though not governments which had their own agenda. Now it seems governments are ready to follow suit.

James Baker, the US Secretary of State, said in a statement in Paris yesterday that the US would begin a dialogue with Vietnam on Cambodia as a response to concern in the US, including Congress, that US policy of support for the non-communist components of the resistance movement in Cambodia was somehow helping the Khmer Rouge.

The move may be the first step, though this is denied, towards the normalisation of US relations with Vietnam, frozen for 15 years since the US suffered its first defeat in war.

The US action flies in the face of China's policy of all-out support for the Khmer Rouge. Washington has been accused of playing down the bloody suppression of pro-democracy demonstrations in Tiananmen last year in order not to provoke the ire of Peking with which President Bush fancies he has a "special relationship".

Fundamentally, the reason for a turnaround on its Cambodia policy is due to domestic reasons. Washington does not want to be accused later that it was partly instrumental in the return of the Khmer Rouge to power, if that is what eventually happens in Cambodia.

## Kenya sees foreign role in riots

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NAIROBI

CRITICISM by the Kenyan government of multi-party advocates continued yesterday as President Moi said last week's riots were aimed at overthrowing him and were backed by mentally unstable power-seekers acting on foreign instructions.

His accusation was reported in parliament by John Keri, the assistant minister, who said some of those arrested in connection with the riots had drawn up a 21-member shadow cabinet which would have seized power had the disturbances toppled the government.

Among those named by Mr Keri were ex-cabinet minister Charles Rubia and lawyers, Paul Mutte, Dr John Khaminwa and Gitobu Imanyara who were detained after speaking in favour of a multi-party system. Others included Dr Gibson Kamau Kuria, Mukaru Ng'ang'a and Professor Ngugi wa Thiong'o who are living abroad for fear of persecution.

Mr Keri said two former vice-presidents, Oginga Odinga and Dr Josephat Karanja, and Anglican bishop Dr Henry Okullu, were also listed in the shadow cabinet. Dr Okullu's sermon last Sunday, in which he called for government to resign and parliament to be dissolved, provoked demands for his detention from some MPs.

Two other people named by Mr Keri denied any involvement with those listed in the shadow cabinet. Laban Kitele, an MP who was in parliament at the time, asked that his name be removed from the list.

George Mbugu, managing editor of *Daily Nation* newspaper, was also quoted as denying any links with the alternative cabinet.

Mr Keri said that the list of names had been corroborated by those arrested after the riots and was incomplete. It would not be surprising to find other incumbent MPs involved in the "illegal group", he added. A cabinet minister called on the government to have Smith Hempstone, the American ambassador, removed.

● Teenager remanded: A teenager arrested last week for wearing a T-shirt with a V-sign and the slogan "Year of victory" has been remanded in custody for possession of seditious materials.

But at this stage, the US action seems more likely to undercut the non-communist resistance movement headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk than prevent the Khmer Rouge's drive to power. China is unlikely to cut back support for the Khmer Rouge.

The troops of Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot, still the overall political and military commander, have had a certain measure of success in winning support from peasants in remote areas by paying for rice in hard currency or gold.

The Khmer Rouge is also projecting itself as adhering to Buddhist practices, though it closed pagodas and sent monks to work in rice fields when it took power in April 1975.

"They know they have an image problem and they have been trying to come across as altogether nicer people," said an official of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front one of the two components in the non-communist resistance allied to the Khmer Rouge.

Cosmetic though these changes may be, the popular perception of the Khmer Rouge as dead-eyed automatons, as derived from David Puttnam's movie, has been superseded. Even the Khmer Rouge has evolved. Part of the reason for that is the Khmer Rouge's desire, prompted no doubt by Peking's public relations effort to burnish its image.

How much of these superficial changes are reflected in the philosophy of Khmer Rouge leaders like Pol Pot, Jeng Sary and military commander Ta Mok, known as "the butcher"? Speaking through their frontman, Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge says it has given up communism and socialism. But there is no real guarantee that its basic philosophy, a mish-mash of Marx, Mao and Jean-Jacques Rousseau ("man is born free but is everywhere in chains") has altered.

One Bangkok-based diplomat, who is a Khmer Rouge observer, says that a new state ruled by them might not be as draconian as the slave state they instituted between 1975 and late 1978 when it was overthrown by Vietnam.

Instead, it would resemble Romania under Ceausescu or Albania under the late Enver Hoxha. "But the point is," said the diplomat, "no one can afford to give the Khmer Rouge the benefit of the doubt. There can be no second chance — by the time we knew what they intended, it would be too late."

The new American attitude will also mean the end, no doubt, of support for a quadripartite solution which will anger China. Of course, Sihanouk might have the option of throwing in his lot with Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister installed by Vietnam, but that would mean thwarting China and it is hard to see the prince doing that, diplomats say.

Cambodia's is a low intensity war and in spite of claims by the Khmer Rouge of battlefield advances there are unlikely to be dramatic changes soon, particularly in the current wet season.



A Liberian rebel, wearing a wig and non-military clothing like many guerrillas fighting President Doe, reloading his rifle shortly before being shot dead by government troops near Monrovia. Peace talks resume today

## Khmer Rouge advances help to undermine Phnom Penh morale

FROM NEIL KELLY IN BANGKOK

THE American decision to change its policy on Cambodia comes against a background of reports of growing military gains by the Khmer Rouge in the 11-year war.

The fighting has spread to the borders of Vietnam and Laos, to the southern coast, and into areas previously regarded as safe by the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh.

The Khmer Rouge and the resistance leader, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, have claimed these advances would not have been possible without the support of local people. Foreign diplomats and aid workers in Cambodia said many people seem to have forgotten the former crimes of the Khmer Rouge.

The widening of the conflict has produced a new wave of 100,000 refugees, some fleeing from the fighting while others were moved from their homes by the government so they could not aid the guerrillas.

The Khmer Rouge's military success has not helped morale in the government, which appears split. Last month, a number of ministers and senior officials, were arrested for alleged illegal financial dealings.

Thai intelligence sources, on information received from agents operating in Cambodia, Cambodian military radio, and satellite pictures, say the guerrillas and political cadres of the Khmer Rouge are operating at will in districts as far apart as Kratie province, 30 miles from the Vietnamese border, and Koh Kong province, in the southwest. In the northeastern province of Preay Vihear, they are thought to be close to the Laotian border. The Khmer Rouge and Prince Sihanouk's army

are also surrounding Kompong Thom, and are controlling Highway Six, a vital link to the northwest.

They believe that the Khmer Rouge could also capture towns in areas such as Kompong Speu, Takeo, Kompong Chhnang, Kampot and Siem Reap, including the historic temples of Angkor and government strongholds near the Thai border at Battambang and Sisophon.

Claims of guerrilla casualties by the government confirm that the fighting has widened and has been in areas which the Khmer Rouge claims to have attacked. The Khmer Rouge does not occupy cities or towns, however, since it adheres to Mao's philosophy that "the country-

side should surround the cities".

"The Khmer Rouge also knows that capturing cities will make international public opinion even more hostile," said a diplomat. "But anyone who says the Khmer Rouge is not doing well is either badly informed or is lying."

Bangkok-based diplomats say reports of the Khmer Rouge's success are not always welcomed by their government, who are more concerned about public opinion at home.

A US state department official said recently in Washington that the United States had no evidence to support reports of the Khmer Rouge's progress, although another official described the Khmer

Rouge's political gains as "frightening".

Although Hun Sen, the Cambodian prime minister, and Prince Sihanouk agreed last month to a voluntary ceasefire at the end of this month, this is now generally seen as worthless, and is unlikely to be taken up by the Security Council. According to Southeast Asian diplomats, China has already indicated it will veto the ceasefire agreement being part of the council's resolution after the Paris talks on Cambodia.

Diplomats have been expecting little progress from the talks, which ended yesterday, as the five permanent council members are as divided on a peace settlement as the four warring factions.

## Harare to lift security measure

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

THE state of emergency, under whose grip Zimbabwe has been governed for the last quarter of a century with often brutal effect, is to be lifted next week.

Addressing parliament yesterday, Mwenemahachi, the minister of home affairs, said it would not be given its routine six-monthly renewal when it expired at midnight next Wednesday. He made it clear that this was because of the recent dramatic changes in South Africa.

"It appears the South African government is now seriously extending a hand of friendship and is now ceasing the carrying out of commando raids on our territory," he said.

The news was immediately welcomed by Nicholas Ndebele, director of the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission, the country's only human rights organisation. He said: "We are really overjoyed with this announcement. Now our people are going to experience real independence, real freedom."

The state of emergency was introduced in 1965 by the British governor, Sir Humphrey Gibbs, after assurances by Ian Smith, the Rhodesian prime minister, that it would not enable the introduction of a unilateral declaration of independence (UDI), but would cope with a security threat. Six days later Mr Smith announced UDI.

Robert Mugabe, now president of Zimbabwe, and most of the current leadership were detained during the state of emergency, which also allowed the Rhodesian government to censor, seize property and ignore citizens' constitutional protections.

But one of the first acts of the new black-majority Zimbabwean government was to continue with the legacy of UDI. It used the same laws to harass its own political opponents — including Joshua Nkomo, the leader of the former Zanu party who now shares the post of second-in-command of the ruling Zanu party.

Observers point out that many of the powers in the state of emergency are contained in the presidential powers act, which allow Mr Mugabe to proclaim states of emergency in parts of the country without resorting to parliament.

## Thatcher showers praise on Mandela

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

DESPITE an "utterly appalling" error of judgement on Northern Ireland, Nelson Mandela evidently made a favourable impression on Mrs Thatcher. In an interview published in *The Star* of Johannesburg yesterday, the prime minister lauded the African National Congress leader as a courageous and a reasonable man who deserved the confidence of white South Africans.

"Mr Mandela has shown great courage and dignity and a remarkable lack of bitterness. I am sure he is genuinely committed to negotiations," she said. Asked whether whites should trust him, Mrs Thatcher said: "I think it is absolutely vital, because he is a reasonable person and can see the force of argument."

Whether her arguments against sanctions and the ANC armed struggle prevailed, however, is a moot point. Asked whether her message had got through to Mr Mandela, she said: "It always gets through when I am there. I come back frequently and say 'we won our case, we got people to realise'. Then they go off somewhere else and kind of forget."

Nor, evidently, did Mr Mandela's suggestion that the British government talk with the IRA impress the prime minister. "That was absolutely and utterly appalling. I think perhaps he did not realise the enormity of what he was saying."

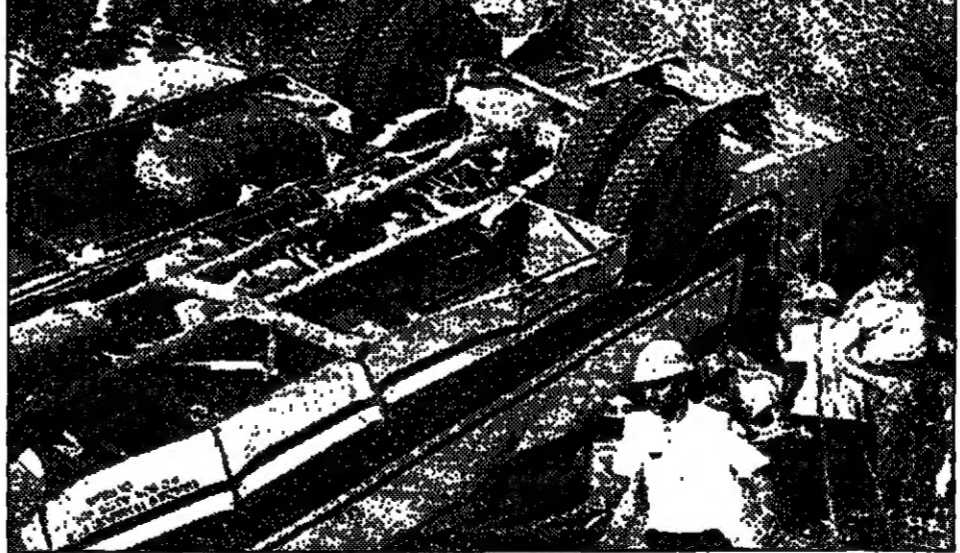
While expressing admiration for Mr Mandela, if not for some of his policies, Mrs Thatcher said she believed that Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, his principal black political rival, had a crucial role to play in the creation of a post-apartheid society. She said Chief Buthe, the South African Zulu leader who also heads the conservative Inkatha party, had demonstrated courage in opposing sanctions and political violence.

The decisive moment for South Africa would be when the vestiges of apartheid legislation had been removed, and a democratic constitution was in place. At that point, she expected South Africa to be fully accepted back into the international community, including the Commonwealth.

Mrs Thatcher saw no reason for maintaining cultural and sports boycotts.

## Bus and taxi ambush kills 26 blacks in Natal

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG



Rescue workers searching for survivors trapped in a bus which careered off the road between Durban and Inanda township after being ambushed by gunmen

TWENTY-SIX people were killed and 49 injured when gunmen ambushed a bus and a taxi yesterday near a black township in Natal province.

The pre-dawn ambush outside Inanda township, north of Durban, was carried out with murderous precision. Both vehicles plunged down a 100ft embankment as the drivers lost control. The dead and injured, all blacks, were on their way to work when the gunmen struck.

Police said they had no idea who they were but blacks in the township had little doubt. A spokesman for the Inanda civic association said: "On Tuesday night a group of people, who we think were Inkatha supporters, went to a section of Inanda and started

attacking people. Several houses were set ablaze and some people were injured."

More than 3,000 people have been killed in four years of violence in Natal — where the state of emergency lifted in the remainder of South Africa last month remains in force — between factions supporting the African National Congress and the Zulu Inkatha movement of Chief Mangosuthu Buthe.

Emergency workers took more than five hours yesterday to pull the dead and injured from the mangled wreckage of the bus which landed on its roof at the bottom of the embankment. The injured were taken to three hospitals. Children from the township helped rescue workers by holding drips for people receiving treatment.

● Youth dies: A black South African youth, aged 15, has died after being assaulted while in police detention, his mother alleges. Eugene Mbulwana, arrested on July 10 after disturbances in Khutsong township, west of Johannesburg, died four days later. Police confirmed the death and said an autopsy was being carried out.

Johannesburg's *Daily Mail* yesterday quoted Aggie Mbulwana as saying that her son was taken to hospital with internal injuries three days after his detention. "Eugene was breathing very deeply. His mouth, face, nose were very swollen. His legs and arms were bruised. I called his name but he did not respond. A few minutes later, he died," Mrs Mbulwana said. (Reuter)

NAIROBI NOTEBOOK by Christopher Walker

## Skyscraper dream stirs whispers of megalomania

DESPITE opposition from local conservationists and international aid donors, the ruling Kenya African National Union (KANU) is going ahead with plans to build Africa's tallest skyscraper, 60 storeys high and fronted by a 30ft statue of President Moi.

Many Western observers regard the extravagant \$198 million (£110 million) scheme as symbolic of presidential megalomania. Its primary purpose will be to act as a communications centre housing the Kenya Times Media Trust, a private company in which KANU is the main shareholder. It will also contain the stock exchange and a round-the-clock commercial television station.

The plan is to build the skyscraper, flanked by two smaller towers and including conference facilities for 6,000, next to Nairobi's attractive Uhuru (freedom) park, one of the few places of outdoor recreation left for residents of the city's dusty, sprawling slums.

A lawsuit by Kenya's green belt movement to outlaw construction was dismissed and President Moi told opponents of the project to shut up, claiming that they had "insects in their heads". The conservationists had declared that the proposed building was "not in the public interest, contravenes the law, will be an environmental

degradation and is impermissible in law in any event".

President Moi announced the decision to go ahead with construction at a recent KANU conference. His opponents claim he is determined to leave a greater monument than any built by his predecessor, Jomo Kenyatta, whose portraits were recently ordered to be removed from public buildings.

With at least 80 per cent of Nairobi's vast army of prostitutes thought to be HIV positive, Aids has become such a national obsession that the popular *Sunday Standard* now devotes a whole page to aspects of the illness every week under the head "Aids Watch".

Readers were told recently that clergy in neighbouring Uganda are up in arms over a suggestion that hotels throughout the country should place condoms in rooms, alongside Gideon's Bible, as part of the national anti-Aids campaign.

An advertisement backing the move, published under the auspices of the health ministry, has coined the catchy new slogan: "While the Bible can save your soul, the condom will save your life." The angry church leaders say the message encourages promiscuity and runs counter to the more earlier campaign slogans, "Zero grazing" and "Loving faithfully".

The late Josselyn Hay, 22nd Earl of Erroll, would have turned in his grave had he known that Charles Rubia, one of two former ministers recently detained for their part in the pro-democracy campaign, was arrested while attending committee meeting at the historic Muthaiga country club, of which he is a prominent member.

The low-slung, pink building was once the centre of the so-called Happy Valley Set, of which Joss Erroll was the leader until his unsolved murder in January 1941. Although well-off Africans like Mr Rubia, the first black mayor of Nairobi, are now welcome to join, the club still evokes the atmosphere of exclusive eccentricity immortalised in James Fox's film of the murder, *White Mischief*.

The arrest by nine plainclothes security agents caused as great a scandal as those generated by Erroll's many adulterous affairs. Members, who still consume vast quantities of oysters at 75p a half-dozen washed down with imported champagne, refused to discuss the matter with the local or foreign press.

For the white Kenyans, described by Evelyn Waugh as "a community of English squires established on the equator", the swoop was the nearest they came to being involved in the recent rioting and the campaign for a democratic

society. Meanwhile, in Nairobi's Cameo Cinema, capacity black audiences are daily to be found jeering the excesses of the settlers in Kenya's hit film of the year, *White Mischief*, labelled "a true story (adults only)".

Few Scotland Yard reports can have been as potentially explosive as that prepared by Detective Superintendent Robert Troon into February's mysterious death of then Kenyan foreign minister, Robert Ouko, so far unpublished and not yet guaranteed ever to get a public airing.

Many diplomats trace back the current instability to the unease caused by Dr Ouko's apparent murder soon after returning from an official visit to the United States during which he was widely reported to have fallen out with President Moi.

Dr Ouko, a member of the powerful Luo tribe, was seen by some politicians as a potential future president. He disappeared from outside his home in a white car, and on February 13, his body was found nearby. He had been shot in the head and burnt almost beyond recognition.

The president, anxious to dispel wild rumours which spread about official involvement in the death, called in the Yard to investigate. Superintendent Troon interviewed some 400 people in and around the

town of Kisumu in connection with the killing and is said to have submitted his interim report to Nairobi last month.

The deafening silence about its findings has only stirred up more rumours and made white cars of any make the most popular target of anti-government rioters. "In the present climate, even a hint of involvement by the security forces would be dynamite," one white Kenyan businessman explained.

The ghosts of Teddy Roosevelt and Ernest Hemingway may soon be back to haunt the Kenyan bush where, under government law, only camera safaris have been permitted since a hunting ban was imposed in 1976.

Richard Leakey, the white Kenyan who runs the country's wildlife department, said recently that a decision was expected by the end of this year on a lifting of the ban. Zimbabwe has shown that controlled hunting is a successful conservation weapon.

But before anyone reaches for their gun, they should note Dr Leakey's warning that the move would be aimed primarily at helping local farmers. Big game and endangered species would remain on the banned list, leaving zebra, buffalo and gazelle as the most likely forms of licensed prey.

Moi in trouble, page 12

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# Warning of new exodus from shaky East Germany

From Ian Murray in Bonn

LESS than three weeks after currency union between the two Germanies, the leaders of the trade union and employer groups in West Germany have warned of a new mass emigration from East Germany because of its rapidly deteriorating economy.

Their warnings came as Regine Hildebrandt, the East German labour minister, revealed that 30 per cent of businesses in the country are unable to pay their bills and as Walter Romberg, the finance minister, said there was "growing, immense unemployment" caused by a wage-price spiral with pay increases of up to 50 per cent.

Heinz-Werner Meyer, leader of the West German trade union federation, said in a radio interview yesterday that there would be a fresh surge of settlers if there were an explosion of prices, wages failed to keep pace and too many jobs were lost in the East. There had to be a middle way to prevent too much pressure on workers, forcing them to leave for the West.

His warning echoed one from Klaus Murnann, president of the West German employers' union, who told the *Osnabrücker Zeitung* that East German trade unions had to realise that wages policy had an immediate effect on the survival of companies. Jobs maintained artificially were also preventing the formation of new firms and would disappear when the subsidies which kept them in existence were withdrawn. Amid large-scale unemployment, West Germany would have to expect more settlers.

East German unions are, nevertheless, pressing ahead with large wage claims, as workers struggle to make their East German salaries meet West German prices. Their average pay is only a third of that in the West, while phasing-out of subsidies means that they are having to spend a high proportion of their income on essentials.

Representatives of 300,000 metal and electricity industry workers in Thuringia are asking for monthly lump sum payments of up to 300 marks (£103) with guaranteed employment until the end of next year. The employers' organisation has responded by offering to increase the amount of short-time working from 10 to 50 per cent to protect jobs, but this would still mean an increase of around 6 per cent on the wages bill, well beyond what most of the 200 companies involved can afford.

The firms have issued a joint statement warning that the wage claim meant short-time working, massive unemployment and threatened the future of the businesses.

The 650,000 employees in the retail trade have just submitted a claim for a 50 per cent increase. The 200,000

railwaymen are also complaining, so far without response, that they are suffering from the effects of currency union, and seeking DM 200 a month compensation.

Negotiations for the 30,000 workers in the print industry, which is one of the more successful commercial sectors in East Germany, are faring better, although their union is now threatening to strike if their full claim is not met. The workers are paid DM 6.80 an hour compared with DM 22 earned by their counterparts in West Germany. They are demanding an immediate increase to half the West German level and have so far been offered DM 9.60.

Pay is the main concern of the unions, although other claims are being made. They are seeking a reduction in the working week from 43½ to 40 hours as a step towards the 37-hour average in West Germany. They also want the introduction of a thirteenth-month payment, plus bonuses for qualifications and extra training.

The West German Institute for economic research, published figures yesterday predicting that East German unemployment is going to grow significantly next year, and suggesting that another 200,000 people will move to the West.

● **EAST BERLIN:** German reunification will probably take place on December 1 — a day before the first joint German elections (Anne McElvoy writes). The decision on the date and electoral provisions for welding the two German states back together should be made before the end of the month, a spokesman for the Commission on German Unity said yesterday.

The all-party commission, which is meeting in West Berlin to prepare the mechanics of the process, has been told by the East German Christian Democrats (CDU) that it will no longer oppose unification before the first joint German elections.

A spokesman for the CDU group in the Volkskammer said that the party would now drop its opposition to the idea "because of the fresh impulse from Chancellor Kohl's meeting with President Gorbachev to achieve unity as quickly as possible".

The party had said that reunification should not take place until after the elections to allow the coalition government of Lothar de Maizière to maintain a say in the final details of the process by its place in a joint German cabinet. This arrangement would also have benefited the minor parties, such as New Forum and Democracy Now, who were instigators of the country's revolution last November but failed to coalesce into significant political forces thereafter.



Passing trade: Marko Steinbach, aged 15, an East German fruit and flower seller, waiting for a customer in Werder as business slackens

## Soviet press hedges on Gorbachev U-turn

From Mary Dejevsky in Moscow

FORTY-eight hours after President Gorbachev's public acceptance that a united Germany could be a member of Nato, the news is still considered too sensitive to be given direct to the people of the Soviet Union.

The official media yesterday stuck to straight accounts of the "two plus four" talks in Paris. Although most reports alluded to a "breakthrough" in discussions, they did not elaborate on the nature of the breakthrough.

*Pravda* published a full transcript of the joint press conference given on Monday by Mr Gorbachev and Helmut Kohl, but the text, in small type covering more than a full page, would have been read in full only by the more persistent reader.

Other papers resorted to the familiar tactic of publishing other people's comments. The army paper, *Krasnaya Zvezda* (Red Star), which in line with some military opinion in the Soviet Union seemed less than enthusiastic about the

prospect of German reunification, published a round-up of foreign press reports. It quoted President Bush's positive reaction to the "breakthrough", and spoke of the joy in Washington over President Gorbachev's statement on a "united Germany's membership of Nato".

A longer article on the same page discussed the Nato secretary-general's visit to Moscow in a positive light.

*Trud* (Labour), the newspaper sponsored by the official trade union organisation, said that the French press had singled out two points of particular importance from the Gorbachev-Kohl talks: the decision on Nato membership, and the granting of full sovereignty to a united Germany. The Russian Federation paper, *Soverskaya Rossiya*, did the same.

The Soviet government newspaper, *Izvestiya*, quoted East Berlin papers on the positive response to Mr Gorbachev's remarks on Nato, giving the appropriate section

of his statement verbatim. It cited the former Communist party paper, *Neues Deutschland*, as saying the Soviet Union had "given the long awaited green light to Nato membership for a united Germany". Again, however, there was no comment from the paper.

The official news agency, *Tass*, came nearest to comment, in an article by one of its political analysts. Aleksandr Anisimov quoted the American television network, CBS, as describing the Soviet-West German summit as historic.

Showing unaccustomed but revealing reticence, the commentator said: "The results of the summit will have such far-reaching consequences that it is hardly possible to gauge the significance of the summit scrupulously just now."

As if anticipating difficulties in persuading the Soviet public to accept the policy change, Mr Anisimov wrote: "The standards of old thinking — who is a winner and who is a loser — are absolutely inap-

propriate." He continued in defensive mood, scotching any suggestion that Moscow had made a political U-turn.

"What some observers hastened to describe as 'the Soviet Union's departure from earlier held positions' is not so in actual fact", he said, "because Gorbachev and Kohl reached accord on the issue only after the two European antagonistic alliances — the Warsaw Pact and Nato — made unambiguous steps towards rapprochement... in a sense, all member states of the two blocs can be viewed as 'co-sponsors' of the decisions made at the Soviet-West German summit."

In the *Tass* comment can be seen a skeleton of the way in which the Soviet decision not to prevent Nato membership for a united Germany will be presented to the Soviet public.

First, they will be accustomed to the idea, through the hints and verbatim quotations that have already appeared in the media.

Second, they will be ac-

quainted with the more positive aspects of the Soviet-West German agreement from the Soviet Union's point of view. These include the tentatively agreed ceiling on a united German army, which was emphasised on Tuesday night's main evening news, and Nato's change in attitude, displayed in the London communiqué and the Nato secretary-general's visit to Moscow, which has been reported in an exclusively positive light.

Now the text of the press conference has been made public for all those who want to know what Mr Gorbachev really said. In the next two or three days, commentators are likely to come into their own with analyses of "wisdom" and "far-sightedness" for the Soviet decision which, they will say, "in no way endangers Soviet security, and may even contribute to overall peace and security in Europe and the world". Any critical or negative comment will seep out only later.

## Tough Vilnius debate on wording of Baltic treaty

From Anatol Lieven in Vilnius

THE Lithuanian parliament is preparing to draw up a treaty it wants to see negotiated between the prospective independent Baltic states and the Soviet Union.

In Latvia, the Soviet loyalist Interfront Movement has split, and former moderate leaders such as Anatoli Belachuk and Dr Tatiana Zhdanok have left the movement and are hoping for long-term compromise with the Latvian Popular Front.

The strength of moderate feeling among the small Russian elites is also shown by the failure of the Interfront attempt to set up an administrative body to co-ordinate the work of Russian-majority local councils in Estonia and act as a counterforce to the Estonian government. This attempt was begun at a congress in Kohtla-Järve on May 26, but has since collapsed for

lack of support from the Russian councils. Yuri Kuzmin, the leader of the district council of East Virumaa, said the Interfront leaders "have shown again and again that they have no commitment to democracy", and that the local council, "the real leaders of the community", is determined to maintain good relations with the Estonians.

This has forced Interfront and the Kremlin to abandon their attempt at a semi-democratic strategy, and to fall back on their previous base, the "all-Union factories" controlled from Moscow and staffed by Russian workers.

With the Kremlin's backing, the all-Union factories have now been placed under a new co-ordinated commission to resist Estonian attempts at takeover and provide social services for the workers.

Soviet control of banking is another factor.

The Lithuanian parliament, in the past fortnight, has also seen heated debates over economic relations with Moscow, and deputies struggle to prepare next year's budget. In the face of radical anger, the government is determined to go on paying its share of taxes to the Soviet budget — around 22 per cent of those raised in Lithuania.

Otherwise, ministers argue, all payments from the Soviet Union will be cut off and financial chaos will ensue.



Landsbergis: a pact with the Russian Federation

## Cuba threatens to ship out dissidents

From Agence France-Presse in Havana

HAVANA yesterday hit back at international criticism of its handling of would-be exiles seeking refuge in foreign diplomatic missions here, saying that it was ready to ship delinquents and social misfits to any European country that wanted them.

Three Cubans have been holed up at the Spanish Embassy since last week, five have taken over a Czechoslovak diplomat's home and another four have sought refuge at the Italian ambassador's residence.

Francisco Ordóñez, the Spanish foreign minister, complained earlier that Cuban police had trespassed into the Spanish embassy's compound on Friday while chasing a man who was apparently seeking asylum.

Speaking in Madrid, he said the situation was tense in Cuba because of a serious economic situation, and that it was in everyone's interest that Cuba should make a peaceful transition towards democracy.

The Cuban foreign ministry responded angrily, saying that Havana was ready to get rid of delinquents and social misfits... if the Spanish government consented to turning its country into an open sewer.

Earlier the foreign ministry repeatedly refused to negotiate on the fate of any of the asylum seekers, 12 of whom voluntarily left the Czechoslovak embassy Monday. This was reminiscent of events

leading up to the Mariel boat lift in 1981, when 125,000 Cubans, many of them convicted criminals, were allowed to leave for America after the Peruvian embassy in Havana was overrun by asylum seekers.

The Cuban foreign ministry said the Spanish foreign minister was being cynical.

It added that Cuba was ready to authorise the departure to any European country of all the antisocial people who followed normal procedures.

The refugee situation in Cuba has drawn international attention 'because similar developments in East Germany last year helped to precipitate the fall of that country's hardline regime.'

In Albania, more than 4,000 nationals who sought refuge in foreign embassies in Tirana earlier this month were allowed to leave the country.

## Kremlin acts to reassure creditors

From Mary Dejevsky in Moscow

THE office of President Gorbachev yesterday issued a statement to reassure the Soviet Union's creditors and clarify its position on debt repayments. Mr Arkadi Maslennikov, the president's press spokesman, called a news conference at short notice yesterday evening to deny any change in Soviet repayment policy.

He expressed concern about a Reuters report which interpreted remarks by President Gorbachev at his press conference with Helmut Kohl, the West German chancellor, on Monday as meaning that Moscow was considering either interrupting or rescheduling payments on its foreign debt.

Mr Maslennikov said: "During the recent press conference... there was mentioned the payment situation in the Soviet Union. It was not meant (to convey) any interruption of debt payments and extension of the maturities (rescheduling), but was searching for ways to settle the payment situation."

"Naturally, all previously signed credit agreements will be honoured and their conditions will not be renegotiated."

The speed of the Soviet response suggests deep concern in Moscow about the country's financial position and how it is perceived in the West.

A senior official of the Soviet state bank, Eduard Gostev, described the Reuters report as "not correct and far from the truth".

Neither Mr Gostev nor Mr Maslennikov would confirm that the Reuters report had been followed by a dramatic fall in international confidence in the Soviet Union's financial reliability.

Mr Gostev said that the Soviet Union's foreign exchange debt amounted to 34 billion transferable roubles (£34 billion) — the same figure as that given by the prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, last month, and he insisted that this was intended to be a ceiling. He said that the Soviet Union did not want to increase its indebtedness, though it did want to improve the structure of its credit. Mr Gostev said that the short-term credit of \$5 billion (Deutschmarks (£1.6 billion)) granted by West Germany last month would be used to offset payment delays primarily to West German exporters.


● **Bodies found:** Four bodies have been found in the Soviet Central Asian republic of Kirghizia where the authorities are fighting to contain ethnic tension between Uzbeks and the majority Kirghiz.

A Soviet Interior Ministry spokesman said yesterday that the four bodies had been discovered in the previous 24 hours.

A police chief and local government chief had been sacked on Tuesday in Osh, where more than 200 people have been killed in clashes between the two nationalities, he added.

The unrest began on June 4 with a land dispute.

The daily *Komsomolskaya Pravda* reported 100 people beaten in recent days, more than 30 with bullet or knife wounds. (Reuters)



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## US trip enhances Kinnock's stature

From Philip Webster and Martin Fletcher in Washington

NEIL Kinnock left Washington last night after a visit which laid to rest his unhappy White House encounter of 1987 and raised his world standing.

The Labour leader's trip generated a surprising amount of interest here, a reflection of American awareness of Margaret Thatcher's recent troubles and curiosity about the man who could replace her.

His timing was good: he arrived on the day Nicholas Ridley resigned from the cabinet. The affair reinforced the damaging impression here that the British government is out of step on Europe. He exploited this by emphasising Labour's pro-European stance.

In striking contrast to his 1987 visit, a reception held for him by Sir Antony Acland, the British ambassador, attracted an impressive array of "movers and shakers". They included Tom Foley, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve, and Katharine Graham, publisher of *The Washington Post*.

The Kinnock team basked yesterday in wide coverage of his 35-minute White House meeting with President Bush.

Visiting politicians from abroad are two-a-penny in Washington, but Mr Kinnock's presence was reported positively in leading American newspapers.

*The New York Times* said the Bush administration had treated him "almost like a head of state, acknowledging how far Mr Kinnock has moderated his party and hinting at how far Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's political fortunes have faded". Earlier the newspaper had carried a lengthy profile of the Labour leader in its Sunday colour magazine.

*The Washington Post* reported the talks under the headline: "Kinnock hopes to oust Thatcher", while *The Washington Times* proclaimed: "Bush White House welcomes Kinnock".

Administration officials gave assessments of Mr Kinnock's performance during his private meetings at the State Department, Pentagon and White House, which ranged from "impressive and reassuring" to "a charming man who didn't say anything strikingly brilliant or strikingly out of place". He was said to have got on particularly well with Lawrence Eagleburger, the deputy secretary of state.

The meetings, most of which overran, focused on areas of agreement such as East-West relations avoiding possible points of difference. "While we would

obviously have some difficulties [with a Labour government], there's no major controversy at the moment that would interfere with a pleasant and non-controversial exchange with the head of the Labour party," said one senior official.

The success of Mr Kinnock's visit can be attributed to two main factors, the first being Labour's policy transformation. The most telling change in American eyes is the abandonment of unilateralism. Shadow cabinet officials have visited Washington in recent weeks to drive the policy changes home.

"This man has shifted so far to the right it is dizzying. I never thought he would go ahead with Trident after being so passionately in favour of unilateralism. It is difficult to grasp," said Dorothy Zinberg, professor of international affairs at Harvard after Mr Kinnock's speech at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York on Monday.

The second factor is changes in Eastern Europe. Mr Kinnock can claim his policies are in harmony with the views of the Bush administration, particularly on German unification and the future of the European Community.

Leading article, page 13

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## Family murders

Family... murders... Family... murders... Family... murders... Family... murders... Family... murders...

## Warrant issued

Warrant... issued... Warrant... issued... Warrant... issued... Warrant... issued... Warrant... issued...

# Iraq accuses Kuwait of plundering key oilfield

By HAZHIR TEIMOURIAN

IRAQ yesterday escalated its new dispute with Kuwait over oil production levels by accusing its small neighbour of violating its southern border.

The charge came in a letter to the Arab League from Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, and was broadcast over Baghdad radio while the Kuwaiti parliament held an emergency meeting behind closed doors to discuss the new threat to its existence from the state it supported with billions of dollars during the 1980-88 Gulf war against the Iraqis.

Coming only a day after President Saddam Hussein of Iraq accused Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates of a conspiracy to undermine Baghdad's foreign exchange earnings by depressing oil prices through over-production, Mr Aziz claimed Kuwait had erected military outposts on Iraqi soil and exploited its

southern Rumaila oilfield since 1980. He said the "stolen" oil had been worth \$2.4 billion (£1.3 billion), and demanded that an equivalent sum be paid to Iraq.

The previous day, President Saddam claimed that the other Arab states of the Gulf had "robbed" Iraq of \$14 billion by depressing oil prices on the international markets.

The unexpected deterioration in relations between the former allies followed a few days after the emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah, received Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, the Iranian foreign minister, but it is not clear whether Kuwait's new overtures to Tehran are a cause of the worsened relations with Iraq or an insurance policy to which Kuwait had decided to resort in anticipation of pressure from Baghdad. The latter would seem more likely.

Last week, before President Saddam launched his sharp verbal attack on them, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates held a meeting with Saudi oil officials in Jeddah and declared that they would cut their oil exports drastically to bring them in line with quotas allocated to members by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The state-controlled Kuwaiti press yesterday published without comment most of President Saddam's Revolution Day speech of Tuesday but censored his accusations of a conspiracy against him by some Gulf rulers and his veiled threat of armed intervention against Kuwait.

In the city of Kuwait yesterday, the new 75-seat consultative assembly went into emergency session to discuss the Iraqi leader's charges, but decided to keep its deliberations secret in view of the delicacy of the situation. The assembly was addressed by the crown prince and prime minister, Sheikh Saad, who said his administration saw the country's position as critical. In his preliminary speech, the sheikh described the Baghdad regime as "the dear and brotherly Iraqi republic".

Observers of Gulf politics yesterday dismissed the likelihood of a violation of Iraq's borders by Kuwait, which has always been highly conscious of the overwhelming military power of Baghdad and its territorial ambitions regarding Kuwait. Indeed, a new aggressive stance by Iraq was predicted soon after the end of the Gulf war and President Saddam's claim that he had triumphed over "the Persians", the traditional rival of the Arabs in the region. At the very least, it was expected that he would use the threat or the actuality of military intervention against Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to avoid the repayment of his estimated war debt of \$45 billion to the two countries.

It is widely believed in the capitals of the region that the Iraqi army has reoccupied an area of formerly disputed desert on the border with Saudi Arabia that President Saddam secretly sold to King Fahd during the war in exchange for badly needed foreign exchange.

When the Saudi leadership complained about the reoccupation of the territory the Iraqi president is said to have replied that his troops felt "so triumphant after vanquishing the Persians" that he did not dare to order them out of the area.

## Critics of Iran forced to recant

By HAZHIR TEIMOURIAN

THE Iranian government is about to put some of its critics on show on television to confess that they had received money from the United States to weaken the Islamic regime from within.

The 21 dissidents, whose arrest was announced by the government last month, are associates of Mehdi Bazargan, the first prime minister after the Islamic revolution of 1979.

They were among 90 signatories of an open letter of protest to President Rafsanjani in which they demanded that freedom of speech and association be returned to Iranians, and all political prisoners be freed. The letter detailed the ills that had befallen the country as a result of "extremist and incompetent leadership" since the fall of the Bazargan cabinet in November 1979, after pro-Khomeini militants invaded the American embassy.

According to an appeal signed on their behalf in Paris by a group of moderate Iranian exiles, a number of those arrested have been badly tortured and all have been beaten by prison guards.

According to reports from Tehran, the arrested dissidents have been under pressure to confess that they had received money from Admiral Ahmad Madani, the first defence minister of the revolutionary regime, who also lives in France. But he denies that he has had any dealings with the arrested dissidents.

The most prominent of those arrested is Ali Ardalan, aged 73 and a former finance minister in the Bazargan government.

Another member of the group is Akbar Zariyeh-Baf, who was arrested only five days ago after he had given two outspoken interviews with the Persian section of the BBC World Service.

Abdul Ali Bazargan, the former prime minister's son, and Ezzat Sahabadi, a former minister without portfolio have also been arrested. Mr Sahabadi recently published an article saying claiming that several billion dollars of Iran's oil revenues earned over the past ten years were missing.

## PLO gives Hezbollah ultimatum

From REUTER IN SIDON

A TOP PLO official warned pro-Iranian Hezbollah fighters yesterday to withdraw from a village in south Lebanon within 24 hours or face confrontation with Palestinian guerrillas.

Zaid Wehbeh, representative of Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said the PLO had decided to move forces into the village of Jarjouch in the Iqlim al-Toufah district, captured by Hezbollah from the Syrian-backed Amal in fierce fighting on Monday.

Amal and Hezbollah exchanged artillery barrages yesterday, preventing 400 PLO fighters, who were armed with heavy machineguns, rocket-propelled grenades and mortars, from taking up positions inside Jarjouch and along other confrontation lines.

Security sources said at least four people had been killed and twenty-four wounded. They said three gunmen had been killed earlier when Hezbollah militants attacked an Amal roadblock in the Ghaziyyeh village south of Sidon.

Mr Wehbeh said, "The presence of Hezbollah in Jarjouch is not acceptable at all. We ask it to pull out quickly."

Hezbollah, which seeks an Islamic republic in Lebanon, and the more secular Amal have been fighting for dominance over Lebanon's 1.3 million Shias for three years.

## Lawsuit threatens Hammer's dream to create art museum

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

ARMAND Hammer's dream of creating an art museum in Los Angeles to rival that of fellow oil tycoon John Paul Getty is being threatened by a multi-million dollar lawsuit by his late wife's sole heir.

Court papers filed in Los Angeles claim that the chairman of Occidental Petroleum Corp, known for his private superpower diplomacy and contributions to cancer research, tricked his wife Frances, herself a painter, into signing away her interest of at

least 50 per cent in the couple's art collection, which includes works by Rembrandt, Renoir, Degas, Leonardo and Rubens.

The collection is one of the most valuable in private hands, and is estimated to be worth up to \$450 million (£281 million).

Dr Hammer, aged 92, plans to donate the collection to the new Armand Hammer Museum of Art and Cultural Center he is now building next to the headquarters of Occi-

dental Petroleum in Los Angeles, not far from the fake Pompeian villa which houses the Getty museum.

But the lawsuit has cast the project into doubt by asking the state court in Los Angeles to return much of the collection to Mrs Hammer's niece and sole heir, Joan Weiss.

Dr Hammer met his wife at a sale of Russian artworks in Chicago in 1933. At the time, she was married to a wealthy Chicago businessman. In his autobiography in 1987, Dr

Hammer wrote: "Though I saw her only for a week, she stayed in my mind forever and she was to become the most important woman in my life and my most durable and happy love." In 1955, newly widowed and while sitting under a hair-dryer at a Los Angeles beauty parlour, she read about Dr Hammer's recent divorce from his second wife in the *Police Gazette* and sent him a telegram asking if she could help at all.

"Yes, Frances, there is something you could do," he replied. "You could marry me." The following January she did. Mrs Hammer died last December at the age of 87, and left her estate valued at \$15 million to Mrs Weiss, naming Mrs Weiss's husband, Robert, as executor.

The Weisses claim that Dr Hammer, who was contemplating retirement at the time of his marriage, built his fortune by borrowing either directly from his millionaire wife or using her money as security for bank loans.

They say that over the next 30 years Dr Hammer induced his wife to sign away her interest in what he earned with her money.

Dr Hammer issued an angry retort. "I am deeply offended by these scurrilous charges, the absolute falsity of which will be demonstrated to the full satisfaction of the court." He branded the charges as "an affront to the long and loving relationship which I had with my wife".

## Drugs and lax gun laws push murder in US to record level

From CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

THE murder rate has taken an alarming leap this year in New York and most other US cities because of crack cocaine and the spread of new high-powered weapons, according to statistics published yesterday.

Police in more than a dozen big cities reported rises in murder, ranging from 10 per cent to over 50 per cent, for the first half of the year.

In New York the rate, already at a record in 1989, jumped 22 per cent in the first three months, or 45 per cent if the 87 deaths in a single arson attack on a club are counted. In Boston it leaped 56 per cent, and in Philadelphia mur-

ders are up 19 per cent this year, after a 21 per cent increase in 1989.

"Our homicide rate is going through the roof," said Ronald Castille, the Philadelphia chief prosecutor. "It's just raining a hail of bullets out there on the streets."

Miami was the only big city where the rate slowed.

The figures, compiled by *The New York Times*, confirmed the view of police, criminologists and residents that violence in the big cities is at an unprecedented level. In the mid 1980s, the US murder rate declined, after a peak of 10.2 killings per 100,000 in 1980. In 1988, the last year for

which the government issued figures, it rose to 8.4. Various estimates put 1989 above the 1980 record, and this year's figures indicate the trend is accelerating.

Police blame drugs, particularly crack cocaine, for the surge, and criminologists say drugs or alcohol are involved in most murders.

The biggest rise is in inner city areas, many of which have become free-fire zones for teenagers with the latest automatic weaponry. The figures have fired the gun-control debate.

Homicide is now the leading cause of death for black men under 40.

## Hunt for quake victims goes on

From A CORRESPONDENT IN MANILA

RESCUERS abandoned their search for students trapped in a quake-shattered school in the northern Philippines yesterday, but Filipinos and foreign countries launched massive assistance programmes so that the hunt for victims of the earthquake that struck the main island of Luzon could be continued elsewhere.

Officials from the Red Cross and the Office of Civil Defence said 414 people died in Monday's quake and predicted that the death toll could rise to 600. About 800 people were injured and an estimated 6,000 people were left homeless.

Officials said six foreigners were reported killed. They include two Americans, one Japanese, one Taiwanese, one Chinese and one Korean.

Strong aftershocks were felt yesterday. The US Geological Service said these tremors, which hit northern Luzon and some parts of Manila, measured 6.3 and 5.8 on the Richter scale.

While workers prepared to bulldoze the six-storey Philippine Christian College in northern Cebu city, relief workers concentrated their efforts in Baguio, which suffered the highest casualties and heaviest damage compared to other areas of Luzon.

Philippine air force helicopters shuttled hundreds of Baguio residents and tourists out of the city to nearby San Fernando town.

Baguio, a city of 110,000 people on a mountain 110 miles north of Manila, is virtually isolated, its roads impassable due to landslides. Government workers have begun blasting rocks on Marcos Highway, one of two main roads leading to Baguio.

People now live in makeshift tents. Food, water and fuel are quickly running out and petrol is being rationed. At the site of fallen hotel buildings, friends and relatives of people trapped inside pray and hope.

Some of those trapped in the Nevada Hotel had attended a convention, including a group of Americans from the United States Agency for International Development.

President Aquino flew to the city to inspect the damage, offering government funds and ordering cabinet ministers to supervise rehabilitation.

The American embassy said 21 civilians of the disaster response team arrived from Washington to help in Baguio. In Cebu, US marines and air force men are continuing to search for survivors.

Thailand reportedly offered two planes to help to evacuate people from Baguio. Germany sent medical supplies, Japan sent doctors, nurses and \$180,000 (£100,000) in relief supplies and Australia gave \$250,000.

Radio and television stations in Manila held marathons to collect contributions of money, food and clothing.



President Aquino inspecting rescue operations yesterday at the mountain resort city of Baguio, which bore the brunt of Monday's earthquake

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## Seoul opposition merges

Seoul - South Korea's two opposition parties have agreed that all their 78 legislators resign and merge into a new party to fight President Roh Tae Woo's ruling party. Kim Dae Jung, president of the Party for Peace and Democracy, agreed with Lee Ki Taek, head of the second largest opposition group, the Democratic Party, that they should tender their resignations next Monday. Both parties are to urge President Roh to dissolve the national assembly and hold snap elections. (AFP)

## Loan write-off

Nouakchott - France has agreed to write off 340 million francs (£33 million) of loans to its former West African colony of Mauritania. (Reuters)

## Pole telescope

Sydney - Astronomers from Australia and the United States plan to build a large telescope on an icy plateau near the South Pole. (Reuters)

## Family murders

Philadelphia - A cancer specialist, Anthony Paul, from Sri Lanka, his wife and two children were found dead in their home in an apparent murder and suicide. (Reuters)

## Warrant issued

Caracas - José Angel Ciliberto, the former Venezuelan interior minister, is being sought in connection with the disappearance of \$337,000 (£187,000) seized from convicted drug dealers. (Reuters)

## Poachers killed

Harare - Zimbabwean anti-poaching patrols killed 24 poachers in the first half of this year against the loss of 14 rhinos. (Reuters)

## Fatal mission

Rio de Janeiro - Brazilian police freed a kidnapper victim, Wolfgang Prinz, and caught one of his captors, but the officer in charge of the operation, Jorge Sobrinho, died of a heart attack. (Reuters)

## Mutton protest

Fremantle - British actress Virginia McKenna, known for her role in the film *Born Free*, joined a dockside protest against the Australian export of live sheep. (Reuters)

## Off the line

Singapore - Car phones have been banned after complaints that the driver of every second car seemed to be locked in a phone conversation. (AFP)





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## UNEASE ABOUT THE FAMILY

Marriage is often said to be in decline, while the family goes on for ever. For those, including Margaret Thatcher, whose lives have been spent in what she yesterday called "an ordinary married family", this apparent parting of the ways is a source of "the deepest unease". She quoted statistics to prove that Britain has one of the highest proportions of lone-parent families in Europe, that 800,000 of them now receive income support, and that only one child in three of these families actually benefits from the regular maintenance payments from the absent parent to which it is entitled.

Such statistics are irresistible to social engineers. All modern politicians are seen to play that role on occasion, if only because they have a vested interest in the delusion that changes in law, rather than in habits or customs, are responsible for changes in society. The prime minister is not naive enough to suppose that she can reverse the secular trends in family life. But she believes that the law must change to keep up with custom. So there is to be a new agency to trace absent parents; the assessment of maintenance payments will be standardised; and the process of payment by absent parents will be simplified.

This is a sane though modest step, intended to mitigate one of the unintended consequences of another generally popular reform, the Divorce Reform Act of 1969. The bill will not deter couples from seeking divorce: only social disapproval, in which parliament fortunately cannot meddle, could do that. The bill will not help most unmarried mothers. Nor can such a bill persuade some women, who may have no better reason for having children than to obtain priority in local authority housing queues, that they should wait until they meet a man who takes fatherhood seriously before undertaking the joys and hazards of pregnancy.

There are advisers in Mrs Thatcher's entourage who would like to go further. They advocate nothing short of a welfare revolution, to restore the traditional family and halt the growth of what they call an "underclass". Some rebel against the indifference of the state

towards marriage, not only as a sacrament, but in any form. They would like the social security system to incorporate incentives to encourage marriage. This might involve depriving single mothers of fast-track access to council housing and, at best, confining income support to children rather than parents. Others want divorce to be made more difficult, or at least more expensive. Their motives are not necessarily religious or even moral. As Mrs Thatcher said: "Parenthood is for life." So are its consequences for the exchequer.

Reformers would be foolish to dismiss such "negative engineering" out of hand. If, as some believe, teenagers are deliberately opting for single parenthood as an occupation, believing it to be the only way of escaping home while acquiring state support, then the state is entitled to ask whether it wishes to encourage this goal further.

Another approach, not necessarily in contrast, is to combat the unattractiveness of married life for many women who wish to combine the joys of parenthood with the personal and financial rewards of work. That involves providing benefits or tax concessions for help with child care. This might redress the balance away from the total state-dependency which often accompanies single parenthood, in favour of the partial or temporary husband-dependency of marriage. Mrs Thatcher is right that, in the case of lone parents, "what was once the exception may now become the rule."

Yet marriage remains the condition chosen by a large majority of the adult population. The rise in the numbers of divorced people is merely one facet of the much longer-term rise in the proportion of the population which either is or has been married. Divorce statistics are only one side of the coin: a quarter of all marriages involve at least one divorced or widowed partner. Marriage is changing as radically as is lone parenthood. More women want to work, more need help with children, with money, with mobility and career structure. Mrs Thatcher should direct some of her thoughts towards helping ordinary marriages to survive. Prevention is half the cure.

## MR KINNOCK'S WORLD

Foreign policy does not determine the way people vote. Even as the postwar international system dissolves, there is little sign of this changing. If foreign affairs nudge voters one way or the other, they do so only insofar as those affairs confirm the stereotypes attaching to political leaders. In no field is it so true that governments may lose arguments but oppositions rarely win them.

Neil Kinnock thus travelled to America this week with limited objectives. His management of the Labour party is governed by two wholly negative considerations: risk-avoidance in matters of policy and fiasco-avoidance in matters of presentation. He has fashioned an approach to foreign policy which is safe to the point of invisibility. His defence policy still represents a fragile peace between Labour's unilateralists and multilateralists, which could break under the strain of an election campaign. Presidents Gorbachev and Bush are at least doing everything in their power to help him here. The jeopardy is now as slight as it could ever be, while nuclear weapons exist.

Labour's travelling party therefore needed only Washington's famed photo-opportunities to obliterate the memories of 1987's humiliations and to confirm that Labour is back in the mainstream of transatlantic visitors. Mr Kinnock has been received with appropriate ceremony. On body language and buzzword, the journey is a success.

This may be the last summer on the international circuit for the party leaders before the next election and Mr Kinnock is making the best of his two great assets. The speed and scale of change in many regions of the world have left most politicians floundering in platitudes. Mr Kinnock is the master of the well-turned platitude and has donned a camouflage to make his views as undistinctive as possible. His second advantage is that his old foe, Mrs Thatcher, is looking less formidable. President Reagan has departed, and events in Germany and Eastern Europe

have undermined the prime minister's role as last custodian of Cold War values. She cannot claim her previous influence over international events. Had she not retreated on German reunification and the European Community, Britain would still appear "isolated". The description may be exaggerated but Mrs Thatcher seems almost to revel in it.

This hardly counts as gain won by Labour's own efforts. In the House of Commons, Labour's contributions to foreign affairs are painfully thin, little more than ritualised assaults on government positions with Mr Kaufman as a thoughtless siege machine. Such static parliamentary warfare may boost party morale, but offers no contribution to new thought on the future of the world.

Looking to the future, Labour's recent policy document, was anodyne in general, and nowhere more flimsy than on "Britain in the world". A clear commitment in favour of widening the European Community to include not only the current applicants but also the East European countries is the nearest it gets to being controversial. Even the pivotal question of when those East European applications might be allowed is qualified by the word "eventually". On the great dispute over the relationship between Nato and any new European security system, Labour offers only a bland sentence: "We seek a new European security framework in which Nato continues to play a constructive role." But this is specificity itself compared with the vaguely requested "new initiatives required by the transformed map of Europe". And nowhere is there any mention of Labour's view on the future of Germany after "four plus two".

Fireside chats at the White House are no substitute for a serious contribution to foreign affairs. Labour strategists, of course, do not wish to offer any substitute that might be hostage to fortune. That is their choice. But if they wish to offer no contribution they cannot complain at the public returning the cynicism.

## MERRIE KINGDOM

The death of culture in Thatcherite Britain has been repeatedly announced by lions of the performing arts such as Sir Peter Hall and Terry Hands. Their jeremiads are echoed by left-wing denunciations of penny-pinching philistinism. The arts in Britain, we are told, are a "national scandal". The report published today by the Policy Studies Institute shows this is nonsense. Culture in Britain, valued at more than £10 billion, now rivals the car industry.

The arts always refer to the small proportion of this that comes from the taxpayer as "funding", as if this sanitises the compulsory public donation. The form of Treasury money has changed over the 1980s, but state subvention has still risen by more than a fifth in real terms. As for the private sector, Britons today spend more than twice as much on cultural pleasures as they did a decade ago. One measure of the enthusiasm is that theatre box office prices have risen far faster than either inflation or wages, but without diminishing attendance. Despite a trebling of ticket prices, audiences have increased for opera (made more popular by television: a Mozart opera attracts 800,000 viewers, three times the number the Royal Opera House can seat in a year).

The only serious signs of consumer resistance detected by the PSI concern cinema attendance (affected by the video revolution), and an initial reluctance to pay admission charges to the national museums. Those which are still free have dropped at the Victoria and Albert, the Science Museum, and the Natural History Museum (though former attendance figures were unreliable). By contrast, people will pay for local, or specialist, museums.

The heritage organisations are also enjoying a boom: the National Trust's membership has

grown by a million, to 1.86 million, and that of English Heritage, founded in 1983, has reached 223,000. Above all, and this is what most worry the industry's more vocal lobbyists, Britons are taking their culture home with them to enjoy, in the form of records, compact discs and pre-recorded video cassettes. Nor is this due to a (non-existent) boom in videonasties and pornography.

The video hire business has nearly doubled since 1984 and sales, worth only £15 million in 1985, rose to £300 million last year. Pornography, always a negligible proportion of the market, has actually lost market share, falling to less than 2 per cent. Horror films, while more prevalent (particularly in the rented market) are on the decline. Nearly half the videos rented are comedy and "general interest" films. More than half those sold are popular music and — the fastest growing area — children's programmes. Not much for Mary Whitehouse to agonise over there.

Nor is the nation turning into a collection of couch-potatoes, slumped before flickering screens. More Britons are making their own entertainment; for every five who go to see plays, opera or dance in any month, four take part in amateur music or drama. All forms of music-making are increasing. The picture is not unalloyed good news, as the heavily-indebted national companies will be quick to assert. Business sponsorship remains stubbornly smallscale, and payroll giving has had little impact on the arts. But that is merely to say, as expected, that big quasi-nationalised industries are seldom the most efficient or able to adjust to market changes. The PSI report, by dispelling the image of a culturally-deprived nation, should take some of the hysteria out of debate on the state of the arts. Hysterics do no service to Britain's flourishing cultural life.

## Chequers seminar: expert view of German question

From Sir Reginald Hibbert

Sir, Professor Norman Stone (article, July 16) adds interestingly to what he himself describes as the Gilbert and Sullivan side of the Ridley episode when he claims that Mrs Thatcher's consultation of him and a few other "honest brokers" historians showed the British state entirely to its advantage.

The British state maintains a large and expensive Foreign and Commonwealth Office and diplomatic service. These have never ceased to analyse the German problem and long ago arrived at views of it to which the assembled professors would give an alpha marking, even if (to judge by George Brock's article of the same date) one or two of its individual members who have served for a long time on the other side of Downing Street would receive only a beta. Can it show the British state to advantage when the considered advice of its diplomatic service is ignored over a long period and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary has to have recourse to novelty methods to enable reason to prevail over prejudice in the formation of policy?

The problem is not a new one, although it has become worse in recent years. I remember being asked in the mid-1970s by the distinguished head of an Oxford college, a proponent of some occurrence of unnecessary friction with European neighbours, why officials like me could not give ministers a half-hour lesson in history. My reply was that they would listen to historical arguments only when they needed them to cover withdrawal from untenable positions.

It is unfortunate that in the last two or three decades a sort of cultural divide has arisen between politicians and officials in this country. The theatres of Parliament, the TV studio and the showbiz side of the written press tempt the politicians in the direction of national attitudinising, while the rapidly growing interdependence of countries draws their officials in the direction of increasing internationalism and its bureaucratic manifestations.

If Mr Douglas Hurd can continue to bring the two sides back into a more constructive relationship he will have made a major contribution to enabling the British state to show itself to advantage.

Yours faithfully,

REGINALD HIBBERT,  
174 Queen Alexandra Mansions,  
Biddborough Street, WC1,  
July 17.

From Professor Gordon Smith

Sir, What a pity that a few political scientists, so despised by Professor Norman Stone, were not present at the Chequers seminar to give some advice to the illustrious historians. (Mrs Thatcher, "does not ask 'political scientists' [sic] or merchants of immediate political advantage. She asks honest brokers...") Historians may be honest, but apparently they can also be naive.

Political scientists would not work with a concept as fuzzy as that of "national character", nor would they accept the terms of some of the questions posed, which amounted to asking whether Germans collectively had ceased to beat their wives. The historians' answer, to the effect that such undesirable habits had been discarded, was certainly interpreted by our friends in the Federal Republic as gratuitously patronising.

Yours faithfully,  
GORDON SMITH,  
London School of Economics and Political Science,  
Department of Government,  
Houghton Street, WC2,  
July 18.

From Mrs J. Sweeting-Hempsall

Sir, Regret is felt about a loss. Remorse is felt about a wrong committed. The apprehensive section of the British public might feel greater reassurance if Norman Stone could accurately describe Germany as remorseful, rather than merely "regretful", about the past.

Yours faithfully,  
J. SWEETING-HEMPSALL,  
20 Lesbury Road,  
Heaton, Newcastle,  
Tyne and Wear.

## Curriculum reform

From the Headmaster of Colfe's School

Sir, Much has been made recently of the need to reform the sixth-form curriculum (Education, July 9) and most members of the Headmasters' Conference would not dissent from that view. Where we appear to differ from some of our colleagues in other associations is over their views that A level is no longer an appropriate examination for sixth-formers.

The conclusions which emerged from the recent extraordinary general meeting of the conference, which is incidentally responsible for over 30 per cent of sixth-form pupils obtaining two or more passes at A level, included a clear acceptance that there is much in the present A level system which is worth retaining.

It has taken many years to develop and hone up courses which enable students to develop intellectual and creative skills, which require increasing depth of understanding and which emphasise the higher-order skills of analysis and synthesis. They provide an academic challenge appropriate to the needs of pupils in the higher-ability bands. There are many experienced teachers in both independent and maintained sectors who strongly oppose the watering down of these courses in order to meet needs for which they were not originally designed.

HMC supports the objectives of providing appropriate courses to encourage a much larger proportion

From Mr N. J. D. Baptiste

Sir, Mr Ridley's remarks and the extraordinary debate about German national characteristics can only be seen as the last spasm of a generation of political leaders unable to come to terms with Britain's loss of international importance and unable to improve our position.

West Germany has been a model democracy. It has achieved a ten-year record of failure to control inflation and has achieved the largest trade deficit in British history to mistrust a country whose model economic management has given it a trade surplus larger than Britain's deficit but has used this economic strength for the benefit of the European Community.

If the British Government wishes to provide a balancing influence in the councils of Europe it should show a positive and genuine commitment to the EC and then take active steps to rebuild Britain's manufacturing industry, which is basic to our national success.

It is sad but only realistic to recognise that our best hope of controlling our apparently endemic inflationary tendency lies in membership of German-led European Monetary Union which will force on us the financial discipline which our own Government abandoned in 1985.

Yours faithfully,  
N. J. D. BAPTISTE  
(Secretary, Conservative Business Circle),  
23 Gladwyn Road, Putney, SW15,  
July 16.

From Mr Tom Benyon

Sir, As politicians are often criticised for not answering questions directly and for their inability to communicate, see what happened to Mrs Currie and Mr Ridley, who did both.

No one can be surprised why politicians dissemble.

Yours sincerely,  
TOM BENYON,  
The Old Rectory,  
Adstock, Buckinghamshire,  
July 14.

tion of the 16-19 age group to remain in education, and also courses which provide for a broadening of the education of those who have simply relied on A levels in the past. However, these objectives are best met, not by tinkering with existing A levels, but by introducing new courses aimed directly at meeting the needs.

The headmaster of Eton's suggestion for reforming AS levels to meet this purpose met with much approval. The introduction into sixth-forms of BTEC (Business Training and Education Council) and other vocational courses or even the use of the International Baccalaureate also received support.

Flexibility is once again the keyword. Whilst all pupils should follow at least five courses in the lower sixth, it is essential that the upper sixth can provide for those who wish to specialise to A level standard in three subjects or for those who want to continue with five or more subjects at a lower level or for any combination of these with or without vocational courses. We are not in favour of over-prescribing the requirements for the 16-19 age group. Whilst core skills may be admirable in concept they could become a millstone if they distort existing courses of proven value.

Yours faithfully,  
V. S. ANTHONY  
(Secretary-designate,  
Headmasters' Conference),  
Colfe's School,  
Horn Park Lane, SE12.

## Stolen violin

From the President, International Confederation of Negotiators in Works of Art

Sir, I read the report from Paul Bompard in Rome (July 10) concerning Pierre Amoyal's stolen violin whilst travelling to the EC Commission to discuss the free movement of works of art, coupled with the need for harmonisation on the laws of title. At present it is possible for an item to be stolen in one country and legally acquired in another, rather difficult with an object that is well publicised, but none the less a permanent nightmare for insurers and the fine art trade.

The prospect of 1993 and Europe without frontiers only makes the matter more urgent, and the international antiquities and fine art trade are pressing for action now. The stolen violin is therefore much in my thoughts,

particularly since I was the person who sold it to M Amoyal some years ago.

He has confirmed (report, July 13) that there is no question of his paying a ransom as it is illegal in Italy. Any question of negotiating with thieves is firmly ruled out by my confederation, which represents the major national fine art trade associations of the Western world.

This will not be the last theft of a work of art until we outlaw negotiations for ransom worldwide and harmonise the laws on title. Fortunately M Amoyal's violin is too well known for it to be sold.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW HILL, President,  
International Confederation of Negotiators in Works of Art,  
c/o British Antique Dealers Association,  
20 Rutland Gate, SW7,  
July 13.

## Rocket boilerman

From Mr M. Seymour

Sir, A few facts need to be put on record to correct the tangled web of myths and errors in the letters from M. Leffevre (June 25) and Mr R. H. Amis (July 4): 1. Henry Booth was appointed Treasurer of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway in 1826, not 1829; his support of George Stephenson would otherwise have been useless.

2. Booth did not invent the fire-tube boiler; he proposed it to George and Robert Stephenson, who turned the idea into working reality. In any case the multi-tube concept dates back to James Watt.

3. Seguin's patent boiler of 1828 did not have water tubes, which are more correctly ascribed to W. H. James, William James's son.

James Neville in 1826 for a fire-tube boiler, pre-dates Seguin's patent by two years.

5. George Stephenson, as engineer to the L. & M. R., was far too busy getting the railway ready for opening in 1830 to do more than contribute ideas and advice, born of his unrivalled practical experience, to his son Robert, based in Newcastle.

6. The record of Robert Stephenson's major responsibility for the design and construction of the Rocket is fully documented and beyond dispute.

7. "Seguin", without an accent, was used by Marc Seguin's grandson Laurent in 1927, and is applied today to the French working replica locomotive.

Yours faithfully,  
M. SEYMOUR,  
Holly Lodge, Wellswood Avenue,  
Torquay, South Devon.

## Raising quality of products

From Lord Young of Grafton

Sir, Leader writers are compelled to see the world in black and white for how else can they distil their wisdom in a few column inches? But should you ("Enemies of the consumer", July 17) have been quite so dismissive of the Enterprise Initiative?

Ask for the reasons for our post-war decline and you will find a surprising degree of agreement. The quality, design, the very reliability of our products, were simply not up to that of our competitors. Where they went forward we slipped back. The culture shock I experienced, when I first saw Japanese manufacturers in 1982 assembling untested components knowing that "zero defects" meant simply that, was profound.

When I returned to the Department of Trade and Industry in June 1987 I introduced the Enterprise Initiative. It concentrated on specific narrow areas, quality manufacturing systems, design, marketing, to spread best practice in the areas where we were weak. We limited our help to the small and medium-sized companies for there the need was greatest.

How did we reach our customers? DTI had only seven offices to cover the entire country, dealing with the larger companies. We increased our offices to 35, to get closer to our customers. How then to reach the 250,000 small-to-medium companies that make up all our suppliers? We used the press, television, whatever it took, to get our message home. How could we preach marketing if we did not practise it ourselves? Today, for the very first time, DTI is in touch with a significant proportion of British industry.

I read my papers correctly my successor, Mr Ridley, arrived a sceptic but, recently, reconfirmed the Enterprise Initiative for a few more years. He did so because it is of real help to the many tens of thousands of companies who are engaged in the struggle to achieve international standards of quality, of reliability, of competitiveness. We, as a nation, only succeed if they do.

You may argue that Government should do less. I would not. But to say that these objectives and the achievements of the Enterprise Initiative are "absurd" displays a worrying lack of appreciation of the needs of industry in the 1990s.

Yours ever,  
YOUNG,  
House of Lords,  
July 17.

## S African schools

From Mrs R. G. Curry

Sir, Miss Nora Bellof (July 12) in her reference to the restriction on black pupils being accepted into white schools in the George, Cape Province, area is, of course, writing about government schools, concerning which legislation has been made but, due to the time factor, has not yet been implemented.

With regard to the intake of black pupils (and every other colour and race) into private schools, such as St Andrew's College, Grahamstown, Eastern Province; The Diocesan College (Bishop's) at Rondebosch, Cape Province; St Cyrian's, and many other top schools, these have had non-white pupils for the past ten years or so; Roman Catholic schools for longer.

Yours sincerely,  
RONA CURRY,  
Pear Tree Cottage,  
54 Mill Street,  
Castletown, Isle of Man.

## Mandela's criticism

From Mr Justin Templer

Sir, In showing solidarity with Kyras's leader, Daniel arap Moi, Nelson Mandela has criticised Western governments for attempting to pressure Moi into democratic reform (report, July 14).

One can only hope that Western governments will make a commitment to democracy a sine qua non of future support for Mr Mandela or, for that matter, any other South African political grouping. There is otherwise little point in replacing the existing white regime with a dictatorship, whatever its colour.

Yours faithfully,  
J. TEMPLER,  
111 Broadhurst Gardens,  
West Hampstead, NW6,  
July 16.

## A Russian question

From Miss Luisa Baldini

Sir, On leaving school for the summer holidays I was given the GCSE exam papers that I had sat last month, to keep.

In one history question, a photograph of a Russian poster of 1919 was given, which the Midland Examining Group described as being entitled, "What the Ukraine gives to Russia". On looking at this paper, a member of my family who can read the Russian alphabet has told me that the Russian writing on the poster actually says, "What Siberia gives to Russia".

I hope the examining group does not make similar mistakes when marking my papers.

Yours faithfully,  
LUIZA BALDINI,  
34A Sheridan Road,  
Merton Park, SW19.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.







British scientists have identified the gene that determines the sex of an unborn baby. Kevin Davies reports

## Discovering the secret of the sexes



Testing genes: Dr Andrew Sinclair at work in the research laboratory

Two teams of British researchers announced yesterday the discovery of a gene that makes one of the most fundamental of all biological decisions — whether a developing embryo is to be male or female.

The gene's role is probably to instruct a newly formed gonad to become a testis, the organ from which all male characteristics originate, rather than an ovary.

The gene is a good candidate for the Testis Determining Factor (TDF), says Dr Andrew Sinclair, of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Laboratories, in central London, where one of the teams is based. The second group, led by Dr Robin Lovell-Badge, works at the National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill, north London. Together, they have published the details of their work in today's *Nature*.

For animal embryos, sex can be decided by one of several different, and occasionally odd, factors. The sex of an alligator, for example, is controlled by the temperature of its egg, whereas the gender of some other animals is governed by the ratio of X, or "sex" chromosomes, to other chromosomes.

With mammals, the determining factor is the presence or absence of a Y chromosome. As females possess two X chromosomes and males an X and a Y chromosome, researchers have long suspected that the Y chromosome must house a special

gene that is capable of "switching on" the development of male characteristics. Lately, the quest for this gene has developed into a race involving scientists on both sides of the Atlantic.

The first lead emerged in the United States at the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In the mid-Eighties, scientists led by Dr David Page, began to look for clues to the gene's identity inside the genetic material of patients with

**'The quest for this gene has developed into a race involving scientists on both sides of the Atlantic'**

a rare condition known as "sex reversal".

They struck lucky because one patient, although apparently female, had a Y chromosome, the type normally found only in males. Because the chromosome was intact but for a small fragment, the researchers decided that this missing fragment probably harboured the crucial TDF gene, the gene which, had it been present, would have made the patient male.

In 1987, an in-depth search of the fragment revealed a promising candidate: a gene that was not only

present in all other mammals but which looked as though it would be able to act as a "master switch" in sex development. But as other researchers scrutinised the gene, some problems emerged. It was difficult to explain, for example, why a similar gene was present on the female X chromosome.

Research on mice showed that the gene was not switched on at the right time or in the right place for it to influence the sex of a developing embryo. Then researchers discovered other patients, males with two female X chromosomes, whose sex reversal was linked to a small fragment of the Y chromosome completely void of the earlier candidate gene.

It was in this fragment that the London group at ICRF uncovered the new candidate gene, part of which closely resembles other genes known to be involved in mating in yeasts. The Mill Hill team has been studying the same gene in mice.

Both groups emphasise, however, that they do not yet have final proof that they have found the elusive TDF gene. For now, they are calling it the "sex determining region". Proof that the new gene is indeed TDF will depend on finding defective versions of it inside sex reversal patients, and the outcome of injecting it into female mouse embryos. If it changes their sex, the race for TDF will be over.

© Nature Times News Service 1990

## Move north for a better lifestyle

Information technology workers are offered a higher standard of living

### JOBSCENE

Employers are reducing their reliance on information technology (IT) staff from the south of England by expanding or opening new centres in the north and Scotland.

With its decision to open a £35 million sales and computer development centre in Newcastle upon Tyne, British Airways is the latest in a line of companies seeking a way out of recruiting difficulties.

BA is hiring experienced computer programmers and analysts for the centre, which will employ 100 information technology staff by next June and 300 by mid-1993.

Companies in the southeast, and London in particular, struggle to recruit and retain technology staff because of the abundance of competing employers in the same region. The recruitment agency MDA says its Birmingham office is busier than either its Bristol or London branches. It attributes part of the slow-down in the capital to companies moving their operations.

"There is a definite trend towards moving out of London, particularly among financial institutions," says Roger Palmer of MDA. "Companies are realising that they do not need to have an IT department in London."

The moves are not confined to the private sector; government information technology departments are also taking up the option. The Department of Social Security is recruiting a range of staff for the Information Technology Skills Agency centre in the north-east, one of the largest civil computerisation projects in Europe. Salaries of up to £18,300 for higher grade posts are on offer, requiring a minimum of two years' experience. Staff with three years' experience can earn up to £21,350. ITSA is offering contracts to experienced ICL staff and is willing to pay the cost of moving to Lytham St Anne's or to Newcastle offices.

According to Hazel Moodie, managing director of NCM, the recruitment agency based in Newcastle upon Tyne, many northeastern employers are offering generous relocation packages to try to entice information technology staff to the region.

"Some companies are providing rented accommodation for a couple of years so staff relocating do not need to lose out on selling their property in the south or go in for expensive bridging loans," Ms Moodie says.

Typical salaries for information technology workers are between £15,000 and £16,000. Although pay outside London is not as high, it is attracted by the increased disposable income offered in the north and the quality of life. Digital Equipment, the computer company, is extending its

Birchwood Science Park in Warrington with a £20 million development, expected to be completed in just over a year. The creation of information technology jobs will have a knock-on effect, with others opening in sales and support.

Geoff Turton, DEC's director for the north, says: "We are finding that people are increasingly reluctant to move to the south because of the higher standard of living in the north. We also find that staff are much more loyal in the north and our turnover is lower than in the rest of the company."

Frontline Initiative has opted to open information technology development centres in the north so local information staff can telework for companies in the south. The first centre was opened in Nottingham in May and others are planned for Doncaster and Belfast.

LESLIE TILLEY



## Just the ticket for travellers on Tube

Commuters on London's Underground are wary of feeding their £788 five-zone annual season tickets into a high-technology ticket machine. They may never reappear. Such anxieties may be irrational, but London Transport has come up with a novel solution requiring passengers only to wave their tickets in the proximity of a machine before passing through the barrier (Michael Dwyer writes).

**New-style ticket checking machines will make life easier for London commuters**

card, containing a built-in radio-frequency pick-up coil, receiving and transmitting circuits, a microprocessor and memory, enables the holder to communicate with the ticket gate and pass through it with a flick of the wrist.

The ticket gate receives the data encoded in the smart card, checks that the holder is entitled to use the system and opens the gates.

Passengers using cards reported lost or stolen will be identified, and the card cannot be passed back across the

barrier to an accomplice for use a second time.

The prototype is being tested in a pilot scheme at Victoria, Green Park and St James's Park stations. Further trials are expected this year.

The technology is being developed by Westinghouse Cubic, an Anglo-American joint venture, which built and installed London Underground's new ticketing system at a cost of £160 million.

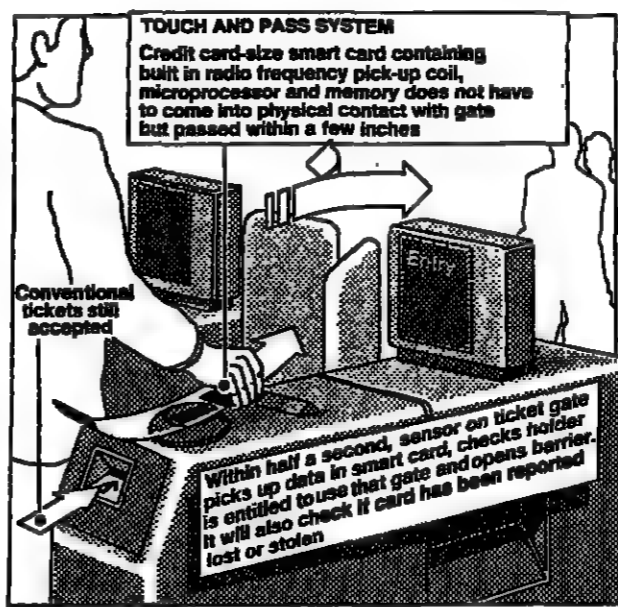
Unlike the magnetic-strip tickets, the smart card has a "non-volatile memory", so

the ticket data cannot be corrupted and made useless by being placed next to a magnetic catch on a handbag.

London Underground expects to offer the smart card to the 1.5 million holders of annual and monthly season tickets, and holders of concessionary fare cards.

The system is the first of its kind in Britain, although Martin Hart, the development company's customer project manager, believes the technology can be extended for use on other transport systems, particularly buses.

The system may also enable Tube travellers to buy £50 or £100-worth of "phonecard" style tickets in advance.



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Yorkshire Electricity Group plc, Scarcroft, Leeds.



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(8552)

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# Cupboard lovers' messages

Victoria Glendinning reviews the cult shopping-list of Eighties consumerism

What is the use of a book? thought Alice in *Wonderland*, "without pictures or conversations?" When it comes to conversations, our expectations are Alice's. So Georges Perec's novels take a bit of getting used to. It's an old game to the French, for Perec became a cult writer for Parisians as soon as *Things*, his first novel, was published in 1965. It was his version of the French "nouveau roman", and therefore a hot number both in its setting — contemporary Paris — and in its style. Yesterday's modishness is today's period piece. But since this particular item never made it across the channel before, it comes with an acquired patina.

*Things* begins with a long, slow, description of a perfect apartment and everything it contains, right down to the colour and texture of the curtain rings. It is the apartment of the young couple in the story dream of having. "They would have liked to be rich," they felt they deserved it. They live in a garret, and wander the streets for hours gazing desirously into the intoxicating windows of antique-dealers, delicatessens, stationers, dress-shops. "From Palais-Royal to Saint-Germain-des-Près, from Champ-de-Mars to the Champs-Élysées, [and so on, topographically, for four more lines] the whole of Paris was a perpetual temptation."

Perec was describing his world. The young couple drift into market research (as Perec did); most of their friends go into advertising.

They are the creators of consumerism, and created by it. Vaguely left-wing, hooked on the cinema, locked in a routine of familiar restaurants and parties of the same people, they achieve nothing, paralysed by aspiration. They are too proud, and lazy, and knowing, to take the sort of jobs that would earn serious money.

The things they want, the things they do buy, the things they eat and read and do, are named and listed as in a case-history, a feasibility study, a catalogue. On and on. Yet it's not at all boring.

Perec was to use this palimpsest technique to monumental effect in a later novel, *Life: A User's Manual*, already translated into English, which is an anatomy of a

THINGS  
A Story of the Sixties  
with  
A Man Asleep  
By Georges Perec  
Translated by Andrew Leak  
Collins Harvill, £12.50

whole apartment block and of all the people — and dreams, stories, chairs, curtains, strips of worn linoleum — that it ever contained.

In *Things*, some of the group sell out, and become bourgeois. The central couple, whose relationship remains blank to the reader, simply get older and more disillusioned, "up to their necks in a cream cake from which they would only ever be able to nibble crumbs". This story of the Sixties casts an odd light on the greedy Eighties. It is a style manual *avant la lettre*, written with the nose pressed against the shop-window. If Perec's couple had had children, they would have "gone for it" in the Eighties, and made or borrowed the money to get the things. Those with their noses against the shop-windows now are the Eastern Europeans, by whom this



Georges Perec, obsessive Joycean chronicler of Paris, and life in general, piece by piece, with pussy

novel has been read as a denunciation of consumer capitalism.

The second short novel in this volume strips away the things. A student wakes on the morning he is to take an exam. He stays in bed. He drops out. He is not hostile, he is indifferent. "Indifference has neither beginning nor end: it is an immutable state, a dead weight, an unshakable inertia."

The narrative addresses him as "you": you avoid your friends, you speak to no one, you soak your socks in a bowl, you play patience, you sleep, you endlessly

walk the streets of Paris — Perec purposefully hijacks Paris as Joyce hijacked Dublin — you desire nothing but notice everything.

You — the other you, the reader — have read this kind of thing before, in Kafka, Proust, Camus, Beckett, you name it — the author doesn't, but he is openly writing within this tradition, performing his variation on the theme of alienation. His conclusion is that it is futile to refuse life, inertia is as pointless as anger, and solitude teaches you nothing, even though it is no good entrusting things with

"the exhausting, impossible, mortal burden of representing you".

Other people, in both novels, seem foggy. No love mentioned, no affection. Maybe for Perec as for Sartre, hell was other people. But "you" are never alone, because you are watching yourself, seeing through to "the dark, empty, slime-green, frightened, impotent interior of you". Even when you are asleep, he says, even when you are dead. Perec died in 1982. With the other eye of his books, at least, he is still seeing through things.

# Square-jawed super strip sleuth

PAPERBACKS

Barry Fantoni

THE DICK TRACY CASEBOOK

Selected by Max Allan Collins and Dick Locher

Penguin, £6.99  
DICK TRACY  
By Max Allan Collins  
Bantam, £3.50

IN VIEW of the plethora of Hollywood blockbusters based on comic strip heroes, has the film industry found in Dick Tracy yet another nest to plunder? However, the well-publicised profits from films like the *Superman* series and *Batman* cloud the fact that Hollywood and newspaper strips both reached their golden age in the late Thirties and Forties, and both have been making fortunes for those involved ever since.

The finest examples of daily strips are nearly always the total creation of one man. Here, the sets, dialogue, characters, costumes, and action are all of a piece, and there have been few better exponents of the newspaper strip hero than Chester Gould, creator of Dick Tracy. One of the genre's greatest characters, Gould introduced Dick Tracy in 1931, against an already firmly established background of strips about middle-class couples — fore-runners of the domestic sit-com. With his traditional snap-brim hat and futuristic talking wrist radio, Dick Tracy was the first, and remains the most enduring, of the "realistic" crime-fighters — men who wear their underpants on the inside. Gould's line, as elegant yet firm as any oriental calligrapher, has illuminated a world drawn from a mix of B-feature detective movies and the genuine underworld. His characters, baddies and goodies alike, are cleanly etched, and many are inspired by Hollywood stars and living criminals.

Given the Hollywood connection it is surprising the movie industry has taken so long to capitalise on one of America's favourite strips. Now we are in for another massive bombardment of hype about *Dick Tracy* — the movie, starring Warren Beatty and Madonna. To cash in on — sorry — to celebrate this Great Moment in Movie History, Penguin has published a collection of Dick Tracy strips.

Selected by the strip's current writer and illustrator, Dick Locher and Max Allan Collins, with commentary by Gould himself (he retired in 1977), we are treated to an enlightening account of Dick Tracy's development over six decades. All the examples chosen are exceptionally fine, with

Gould's mature work in the 1944 story, "The Brow", outstanding. Many newspaper strips lost their bite when taken over by the powerful international syndicates, demanding watered down versions for the mass market, but Dick Tracy refused to turn soft, an important point the book does not make. And in view of its importance as a universally read strip, I would like to have seen a little more information about its influence on other strips. Nevertheless there is much to enjoy in this selection of "continuities", as a series of strips are known, and in spite of some poor reproduction in some frames the passion of Gould's line is ever present.

The story lines of a Dick Tracy strip are often extremely violent, although the present writer, Max Allan Collins, who is responsible for the book-of-the-film-of-the-strip, has for some reason kept the ketchup off the page. The writing in Dick Tracy is essentially Mickey Spillane on autopilot, and even then, half the one-liners, so much a feature of good detective writing, would have ended up in Mickey's trashcan. The over-economic style is ideal for a daily strip, but when aimed at a full-length novel it simply exposes the lack of linear accompaniment (no pictures). But like the movie, I suspect the book is aimed at an audience aged 13-20, and it will certainly provide a moment or two of light entertainment while they queue round the block for a seat to see the film. And don't go away. We still haven't had movies of Terry and the Pirates, Plastic Man, The Phantom, Captain Marvel, Sheena, Queen of the Jungle, Blackhawk, Secret Agent X-9...

# Doctor at a loose end and in love: Jane Austen with treacle

IT IS 1803. The fear of Bonaparte's invasion is spreading over rural Norfolk. There is a heatwave for Doctor Alexander French's return home after a year's absence, to pack up before sailing for Bombay to serve the East India Company. Doctors and surgeons revere him, but the army will not take him. He is too clever, too good, too argumentative, and too difficult over the care of his men. We know that he is difficult from two earlier books (*A Season of Mists* and *The Peacock's Feather*). He is unhappy in love with Ann, widow of Sir Harry Gerard. The doctor has decided to go. But there are delays. Who would have thought the doctor would fall for the charm of Julia Hawksworth? She is sensual, false and promiscuous. Perhaps the attraction is her eight-year-old daughter, Cassandra, or her Aunt, the eccentric Mrs Clodie

HISTORICALS

Philippa Toomey

THE NATIVE AIR  
By Sarah Woodhouse  
Century, £11.95

McCool, in whose house they live.

Once again this is an enchanting yet realistic picture of a small rural community, hard at work in the fields, enjoying a ball, a party, and a good deal of gossip, with the threat of war in the background. Is sad and at a loose end. One of them prefers her fortune to herself, but she has lost it. Her husband's only legacy, the privy that has made her fortune, has been lost with all hands. The doctor has his usual bad luck with recalcitrant horses, but the possibility of a

tragedy when Cassandra is abducted clears everyone's mind, and changes his luck. At 43, he has his heart's desire. If you have not read any of Sarah Woodhouse's five novels start here.

● *Mossday's Warriors*, by Maurice Shadbolt (Bloombsbury £13.99). Victorian New Zealand was beset by the Maori Wars — confrontations between wily guerrillas hidden in the woods and the giant ferns, and the bumbling army. Kimball Bent, an American in the British Army, deserts to the Maoris, and gains a legendary reputation for feats that are not his. A ferocious tale, told with wit, involving much bravery, some Methodism, a little cannibalism, betrayal from within, and inevitable defeat. Kimball Bent is a historical character who died in 1916. Maurice Shadbolt has made him into a believable legend.

● *The Wild Hunt*, by Elizabeth

Chadwick (Michael Joseph, £13.99). William Rufus was one of our more unpleasant kings. Under his regime, Guyon of Ledworth has to marry an heiress before he can succeed to lands that are rightfully his. Attractive, experienced, and nearly 30, he is confronted by Judith, a terrified 15-year-old, whose own father has been a monster of cruelty. Life is tough, and Guyon has constantly to defend his own territory on the Welsh marches from the Welsh, and from closer enemies among the nobles. He has a child by his Welsh mistress, while his wife still fears the marriage bed, but all ends relatively well (considering this is the 12th century) with massacres, battles, and the secret of Judith's parentage. The book won a Betty Trask award. A sequel, *The Running Vixen*, is on the way.

● *Rebecca's Children*, by Kate Dunn (Barrie & Jenkins, £13.99).

Founded on episodes in the life of the author's great-great-grandfather, this accomplished first novel deals with the Rebecca riots in 19th-century Wales. Hugh Williams was a lawyer, an early Chartist, who married a woman 30 years older than him for her money. He meets Mary Jenkins and her brother William over a law suit. Hugh is attracted to Mary, and involved in an affair with her (one of many — he was apparently known as Hugh Williams of the 100 bastards) and, more dangerously, in helping the Rebeccas — young men who disguise themselves as women and burn down the hated toll-gates. This leads to more violence, hangings, and transportations. Mary, her daughter Eleanor, and her brother survive, but only just. Hugh, released from matrimony when his wife dies aged 90, marries again, and founds the Williams family, which includes

Kate Dunn's uncles, Simon and Hugo.

● *Homage to Sarah*, by Valerie Blumenthal (Collins, £13.95). Adam Gilmour is a shy boy. When his father dies, he inherits the baronetcy. But it is his mother's favourite, Jonathan, the younger son, who succeeds in life, and marries Sarah, the girl Adam loves. Adam is a writer published in influential magazines, and also a successful novelist. After his brother's death, he becomes Sarah's lover. But she leaves him when an autobiographical novel, prosecuted for obscenity, reveals her identity. He marries disastrously, but continues his career with friends like Swinburne, Hardy, and Edward Lear to cheer him on. Unfortunately, though this is a good dramatic story, there is almost no sense of period. No one was made a life peer in 1888. The dialogue is anachronistic.

# Saturday Review

## Lady with paintbrush

Beautiful Berthe Morisot was the female Impressionist, a woman before her time.  
Isabel Raphael reviews her biography

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# But his heart belongs to Dada

Anne Barnes

EXQUISITE CADAVER



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THE DUST ROADS OF MONFERRATO

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Collins, £13.95

IN THE CHINESE MOUNTAINS

By John Hopkins  
Peter Owen, £12.95

EDGE OF EDEN

By Nicholas Proffitt  
Bantam, £13.95

THERE'S a lot of specialised knowledge hanging about in this week's fiction, whether about big game hunting, farming, surrealism, or politics in Peru. Firstly in *Exquisite Cadaver*, Wolf Mankowitz presents "a collage of the Lives and Times of Leo Lhooc, deceased Dadaist, Surrealist and petty criminal". It is pieced together with "amusing facts concerning the monetarisation of the works of this third rate artist, demonstrating how he was worth more dead than alive". It is quite a feat.

The decaying corpse of Leo Lhooc is found in an isolated ranch house somewhere in the middle of the American West. This is the starting point for two different storylines. One is narrated by the ghost of Leo himself, recalling incidents from his past life as a member of the Dada movement in Paris in the Twenties. The other is a crisp account of the future that develops when the art dealers realise the inflated values of the art works he has left behind, now apparently up for grabs by whoever can buy and sell fastest. The absurdity of the art world may be familiar, but it can still startle — particularly when, as here, there are plenty of surprises along the way. Mankowitz has a detailed knowledge of Dadaism, both of the works produced and the personalities involved, and he constructs his narrative around this expertise with ingenuity and wit. Nihilism emerges as the joke it was meant to be — nothing, but quite valuable nothing.

Less ingenious, but well timed to fan the seasonal yearning for terracotta hillsides, is Rosetta Loy's description of a family farming in northern Italy during the 19th century. *The Dust Roads of Monferrato* see the arrivals and departures of a family spanning three generations. The story starts with the house being built by the man who has grown rich "thanks to the comings and goings of soldiers, providing fodder for the horses and grain first hidden, then sold for three times its value". It

ends with his granddaughter marrying a rich factory owner, and going off to live in another part of the country, leaving the house empty (except for two old men) and creaking like a vessel lying at anchor. Much of the earlier part of the novel is a description of the practicalities of life in a farming community, but as the story moves through various marriages, deaths and births, the tone becomes more philosophical. On the whole it is a bleak story of endurance and bewilderment in the face of drudgery and sudden disaster. Domestic chores, sometimes poetically described, do not bring composure or companionship. They seem, on the contrary, to create isolation and a sense of muted discord. So although the author does suggest moments of love and care and passion, she

never conveys a sense of continuing tradition that makes this sort of chronicle coherent. It is a challenging statement about the complications of the simple life.

John Hopkins delineates family life in *In the Chinese Mountains* with a more specific purpose. He uses it to give a precise account of the Peruvian political scene, picking out and emphasising the contrast between the impoverished Indians and the Spanish-speaking ruling elite. The Calderon family have always been prominent in political affairs. Charlie, now a dedicated octogenarian, is a past president well known for his ability to stay aloof in politically troubled waters, and also for his cruel reprisals against the Indians. Joshua, his son, is poised to become the next president. He is much more liberal and humanitarian than his father, but this is impermissible to the terrorist opposition, who see the family as a symbol of the privilege they so much resent. Violence cannot be avoided, it can only be delayed. Hopkins tells a terse story in plain prose, revealing the crudity and the pathos of political divisions in South America.

In Nicholas Proffitt's *Edge of Eden* the conflict is less streamlined. On the bad side are poachers and their attendant villains, who roam around killing big game for profit, and sometimes human beings for convenience. On the good side is a nice young man called Adrian, loyally upholding the strict white-hunter code of honour, and an incorruptible African police inspector. Together they represent the best principles of the old and the new Kenya, but they are up against powerful and elusive enemies. The plot grinds along laboriously at times, and what the characters actually say to each other often seems a bit unlikely, but Kenya's predicament, balanced between old colonialist traditions and the complexity of African lore, is carefully set out. And the backdrop, complete with big game, is not dull.

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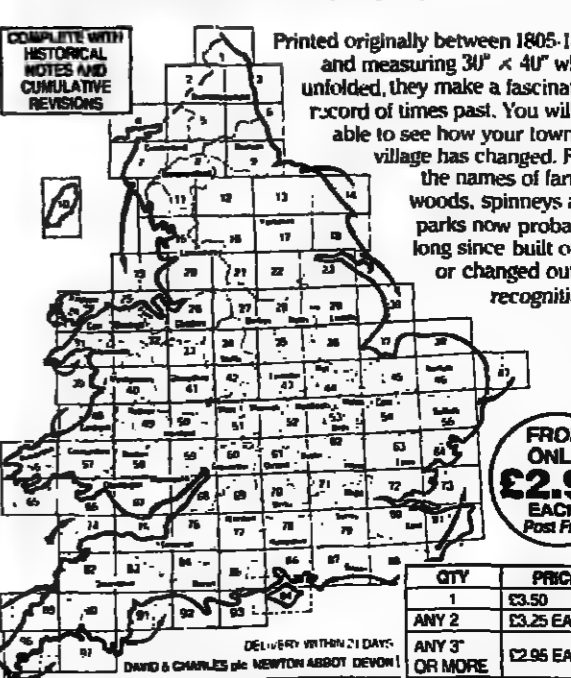
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Political sketch  
e ghosts of  
nets to come

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- VENICE 34,35
- LAW 36
- SPORT 36-42

## BUSINESS

THURSDAY JULY 19 1990

مكثان الأهل

Executive Editor  
David BrewertonMistake  
on report  
may cost  
£120,000

THE cost of compensating people who lost on share deals after a government report was mistakenly released a day early could reach £120,000, according to John Redwood, the junior trade minister. However, he said in the Commons he hoped the figure would be lower.

The government would continue to consider claims received before the end of this month for compensation relating to the premature release of a Monopolies and Mergers Commission report into the Kingfisher takeover bid for its high street rival, Dixons.

The report, saying that the £568 million bid should be rejected, was due to be released on May 24, but because some people were able to obtain it 24 hours in advance, share dealing was affected.

Electricity firms  
spend £22m

The 12 electricity distribution companies spent £22 million on their forthcoming privatisation in the year to end-March.

The figure will be disclosed today when the companies unveil their results for the year.

Hard Times, Page 27

## Leisure issue

First Leisure is raising £30.7 million via a one-for-eight rights issue at 182p a share to develop its core business. Interim pre-tax profits to end-April were £10.1 million (£8.22 million), and the dividend rises by 37.8 per cent to 1.55p.

Tempus, page 27

## Bulmer up 14%

HP Bulmer, the cider producer, increased taxable profits by 14 per cent to £12 million in the year to April. The total dividend rises 10 per cent to 7.65p with a 4.77p final, payable from earnings of 13.95p a share, up 35 per cent, reflecting exceptionally low tax.

Tempus, page 27

## Cityvision jump

Cityvision, the country's largest video rental chain, which trades under the name Ritz, raised pre-tax profits from £4.62 million to £8.37 million in the six months to May 31. The interim dividend is doubled to 0.5p.

Tempus, page 27

## THE POUND

US dollar 1.8205 (+0.0095)  
W German mark 2.9929 (+0.0112)  
Exchange Index 94.3 (+0.3)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1900.6 (-12.3)  
FT-SE 100 2402.0 (-13.0)  
New York Dow Jones 2988.37 (-11.38)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 33048.11 (-124.17)  
Closing Prices ... Page 29

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 15%  
3-month Interbank 14 1/4%  
3-month eligible bills 14 1/4%  
US: Prime Rate 10%  
Federal Funds 7 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bills 7 5/8%  
30-year bonds 102 1/2%

## CURRENCIES

London: New York: £ \$1.8205  
E DM2 9529 \$ DM1 6440  
E SF2 5642 \$ SF2 14080  
E FF10 0448 \$ FF5 5175  
E Yen147 25 \$ Yen147 25  
E Index 94.3 \$ Index 94.3  
ECU 0.671082 SDR 0.742051  
E ECU1 047048 E SDR1 347616

## GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$360.10 PM \$359.40  
close \$360.25-360.75 (£197.50-198.00)  
New York: Comex \$360.30-360.80

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug) ... \$18.05 bbl (\$17.70)  
\* Denotes latest trading price

## BANKS

	Bank	Bank
Australia S	2413	2253
Austria Sch	21.90	20.50
Belgium Fr	64.60	60.60
Canada S	2.182	2.082
Denmark Kr	11.89	11.19
Finland Mk	7.32	6.92
France Fr	10.45	9.85
Germany DM	3.11	2.92
Greece Dr	238	222
Hong Kong S	14.75	13.85
Ireland P	1.186	1.059
Italy Lira	1225	1155
Japan Yen	263	253
Netherlands Gld	3.487	3.307
Norway Kr	11.98	11.28
Portugal Esc	273	258
South Africa R	19.75	18.5
Spain Ptas	190.5	179.5
Sweden Kr	11.23	10.63
Switzerland FF	2.96	2.80
Turkey Lira	305	4625
USA \$	1.911	1.796
Yugoslavia Dnr	25.5	19.5

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Dealers rates apply to travellers cheques.  
Retail Price Index: 126.7 (June)

Warning about  
banned adviser  
given last year

By JON ASHWORTH

FINANCIAL regulators and the police were warned in September about Peter Owen-Jackson, the investment adviser ordered to cease trading this week, but took no further action.

The warning was given by Albany Life, the assurance company, which made Mr Owen-Jackson an appointed representative in September 1988 under the name Financial Planning Services. The company broke off the relationship a year later, after complaints from an investor who had become concerned about his dealings with Mr Owen-Jackson. At that time, Albany notified the police along with the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Association (Lautro).

The Securities and Investments Board has secured two injunctions in the High Court ordering Mr Owen-Jackson and his personal company, Kentasoot, to cease invest-

ment business. The SIB action was taken after a further complaint was received from Albany Life in May.

Mr Owen-Jackson is not authorised to conduct investment business under the Financial Services Act.

Albany Life said it had conducted business with Mr Owen-Jackson since 1982. The company added: "Albany terminated its relationship with Mr Owen-Jackson in September 1989, following an incident which caused the company to be dissatisfied with his standards of operation. Although, owing to the circumstances of the case, Albany alerted both the police and Lautro as precautionary measures, the matter was resolved financially and no formal complaint resulted."

"A thorough investigation of policies introduced by Mr Owen-Jackson, which included visits to policyholders, failed to uncover any cause for further action and no subsequent time did Albany

receive any complaint from any client of Mr Owen-Jackson relating to financial matters."

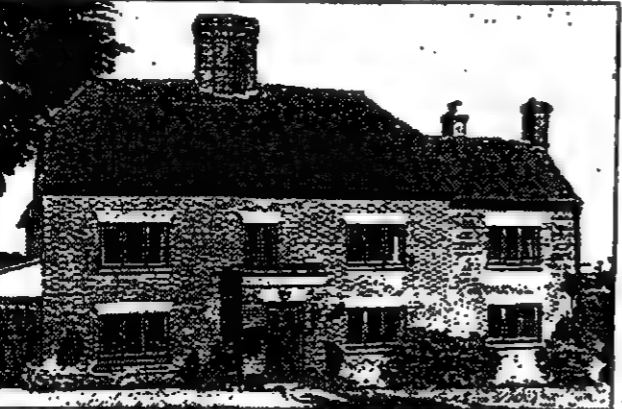
In May, a routine check by Albany revealed that the payee of a cheque issued on a policyholder's instruction was a company that on investigation proved to be controlled by Mr Owen-Jackson, and the matter was referred immediately to the SIB. The company is understood to be Kentasoot.

Malcolm Kerr, sales and marketing director of Albany Life, said the company had acted promptly at all times and had more than fully discharged its statutory obligations in order to protect the interests of investors. He said the company would continue to co-operate fully with the authorities.

Kit Jebens, Lautro's chief executive, said that its members were fully responsible for the actions of their tied agents. Mr Jebens said it was possible to employ unregulated individuals as tied agents, providing the company was satisfied that they were "fit and proper" to carry out investment business.

Mr Owen-Jackson, aged 41, who is married with two children, drove a Lotus Esprit and carried out business from his home, Itington Manor, near Battle in Sussex. He is believed to have dealt extensively in property.

Callers to Mr Owen-Jackson's business number yesterday heard a recorded message, saying the office would be unattended during the holiday period until July 30.



Mr Owen-Jackson's home in Sussex

Burton sells financial  
offshoot to GE Capital

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

BURTON Group, the retailer that owns Debenhams, Principles and Dorothy Perkins, has sold its financial services division (BGFS) to GE Capital, the financial services arm of General Electric Company of America, for £182.7 million, and has put its property development division up for sale.

Burton said that it would withdraw from property development and concentrate on retailing.

The City has become increasingly concerned about the group's gearing and its involvement in non-retailing activities. Sir Ralph Halpern, Burton's chairman, has been under pressure to change the group's strategy. Burton said

its property development division had some interest and the group is now inviting more formal offers. It will consider selling the developments piecemeal.

Yesterday's long-awaited sale of BGFS will reduce Burton's gearing, which was expected to rise to about 130 per cent this year, to 50 per cent. BGFS has repaid £92 million of inter-company debt to Burton. It has receivables of £570 million. Burton shares rose 5p to 109p.

The deal, which has been under negotiation for seven months, gives Burton a premium over net book value and represents a price earnings ratio of about 11, assuming profits of about £25 million

for BGFS this year. It should also safeguard the dividend. Burton is forecast to make pre-tax profits of £140 million this year, down from £220 million.

Burton has a 15-year agreement with GE Capital, a main provider of retail credit card services worldwide, which will ensure a continuation of financial services to Burton. The company will pay a fee to GE expected to be in the region of £7 million. The deal is likely to be earnings neutral.

The deal is seen to be a good one for the company, but John Richards, of County NatWest, said there was still a number of unknowns, such as the net book value of the business.

Comment, page 27

## Ministers face spending cuts

By RODNEY LORD, ECONOMICS EDITOR

GOVERNMENT spending as a proportion of the economy is likely to be forced down when the cabinet meets today to consider next year's plans.

Only the government's strategy and some of the individual bids, which add up to more than £10 billion, will be considered. The effect of inflation could allow some increase in cash spending, but John Major and the Treasury are likely to argue for keeping close to the existing plans.

Much of the reserve built

into the figures has already been allocated to easing the impact of the poll tax.

The medium term financial strategy in the budget provided for a fiscal adjustment of £1 billion which could be used to cut taxes, but to stick to the projected budget surplus next year of £3 billion could now mean an increase in taxes rather than a cut.

The biggest bids for extra spending come from social security, health, education and transport.



Major: urging cuts

## Government portfolio cut by new privatisation method

## Breakfast deal for British Gas shares

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

PRIVATISATION took a new turn at breakfast time yesterday when the Treasury sold 54 million remaining shares in British Gas to Warburg Securities in a bought deal, the first used by the government, which left the securities group to take the risk of placing them among big investors as best it could.

At the same time, the Treasury sold 14 million British Gas shares to the company's own employee share trust for use in company schemes. The two sales raised £150 million for the taxpayer.

The shares were left over from those retained for the one-for-ten loyalty bonus for private investors who bought British Gas shares in the flotation of December 1986. Half of those originally eligible had sold their shares by the time the bonus became payable three years later.

The shares sold to Gas employee share

trusts fetched 221.9p each, against a closing stock market bid price of 222p on Tuesday night. Those sold to Warburg fetched 219.75p, but NM Rothschild advised the Treasury that a bought deal was the most cost-effective way of placing the bulk of the shares.

Rothschild called in four leading market-makers at lunchtime on Tuesday and conducted a tender auction at 7.45 am yesterday. Warburg was told that it had won at 8 am and had sold the shares to 60 financial institutions by 8.22 am at about 0.75p more than it paid, making a profit of about £400,000.

The bought deal, one of the biggest in recent years, is likely to have netted the government more than an extended placing by brokers because it did not disturb the market in British Gas shares. This may encourage further use of the system for parcels of quoted shares too small for a general public offer.

The £150 million windfall is the first

big contribution to the £5 billion that the government plans to raise in asset sales this financial year, though only a tenth of the £1.5 billion due for the second instalment on privatised water shares this month. There will be small contributions from unused bonus shares of British Airways and of BAA, whose loyal small investors collect bonuses this month.

A larger windfall should come from British Petroleum shares. The government kept 68 million BP shares for bonuses due after the unpopular sale, just after the October 1987 crash, few of which may be needed. The Bank of England also accumulated 39 million of its buy-back scheme. In total, the government's BP shares are worth £350 million.

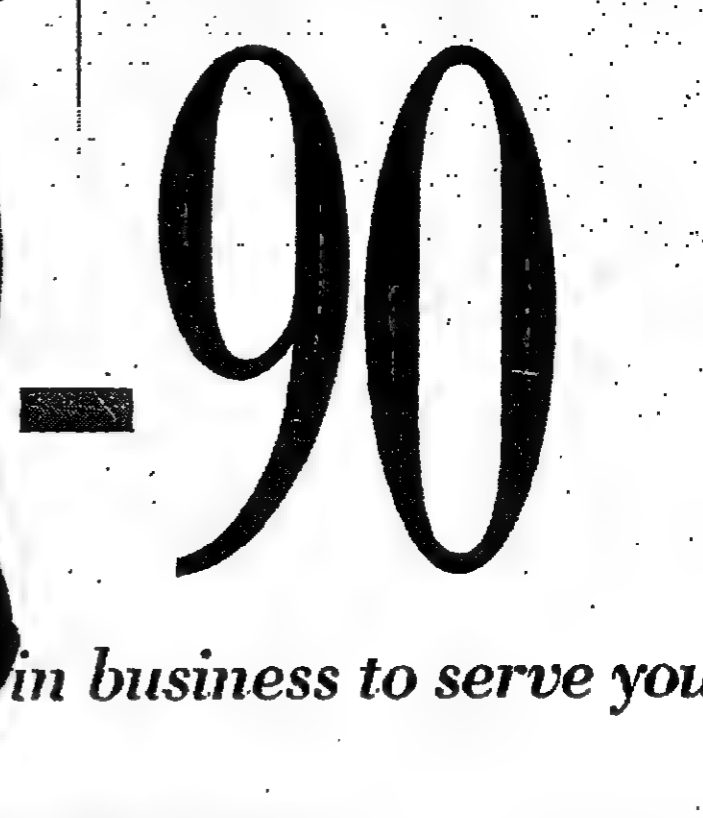
The biggest remaining state holding of quoted shares is a 49.8 per cent stake in British Telecom worth some £9.5 billion. Selling it in this financial year could, however, conflict with the planned sale of the electricity supply industry.

## Post Office delivery on target

## Post Office

NINETEEN

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in business to serve you

Figures fall in line: Sir Bryan Nicholson, the chairman, announcing the decline to a lower target yesterday

Profits fall  
31.5% to  
£116m,  
as plannedBy DEREK HARRIS  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

POST Office pre-tax profits last year plunged 31.5 per cent to £116.5 million, down nearly £54 million, on turnover up 14 per cent to £4.46 billion. However, a decline was planned as different financial targets were introduced.

These targets, agreed with the government, had been met overall, although there was a divisional shortfall in parcels, partly because of tougher trading conditions, said Sir Bryan Nicholson, the chairman of the Post Office, announcing annual results.

A book loss of £68.7 million on the Post Office's £112 million sale of Girobank to the Alliance & Leicester building society has been treated as an extraordinary item.

The profits decline is worse than it appears because the previous year there were £50 million of losses due to a postal strike.

During the past year and in the two following years, the financial targets have been switched from return on sales to return on capital employed, to be closer to private sector practice and to reflect Post Office investment needs.

Sir Bryan said: "The government took account of the rate of inflation and our policy on prices, and set us a target at a level of profit lower than in the previous year."

During the second and third years, the targets become "significantly more demanding", especially because of large increases needed in capital spending to improve the quality of Post Office services. Sir Bryan said he expected to meet those targets.

The Royal Mail, at £30.8 million, achieved a 2.2 per cent return against a targeted 1 per cent. The counters operation at high street post offices, at £21.7 million, achieved a 10 per cent return against a 9.4 per cent target.

Parcelforce, the parcels operation, at £11.3 million, managed a 0.6 per cent return against a projected 2.5 per cent. The Post Office as a group, at £70.4 million, achieved a 3.7 per cent return against a targeted 2.4 per cent.

Bond rescue bid  
faces crucial vote

By ANGELA MACKAY

HOLDERS of Bond Corporation's Eurobonds will be offered several proposals today, including a restructuring of the company's equity and possibly the resignation of Alan Bond as chairman of his flagship company, in an eleventh hour bid to keep the company from collapse.

Bondholders are being asked to approve the sale of Bond Brewing and agree to a one-year moratorium on interest payments.

Other inducements include a rejigging of the board which will reduce the number of representatives of Dalhousie, Mr Bond's family company, to a minority, a new chief executive and the introduction of a bondholders' committee to monitor a new management.

A meeting of the holders of Aus\$340 million of Bond Corp convertible bonds, now worth about 4 cents in the dollar, was postponed last month but will reconvene this afternoon at the company's Northumberland Avenue headquarters.

Peter Lucas, a director of Bond Corp, said that if the

bondholders vote against the two resolutions, it would "almost certainly ensure that they end up with nothing in the likely event that liquidation of Bond Corp's assets ensues" because they rank behind other creditors. Over the past three weeks, Bond Corp executives have visited bondholders to try and convince them to cooperate, but many of the disillusioned investors have exhausted their patience.

Mr Lucas is expected to promise bondholders preference shares in Bond Corp which, if converted, would give them control of the firm. Holders of straight bonds will be offered different terms.

At the previous meeting, Bond Corp was saved by a procedural hitch caused by insufficient votes to ensure the 75 per cent majority.

If they approve the Aus\$1.8 billion (£785 million) sale of Bond Brewing to Bell Resources, bondholders will give up their "put" covenants which forces Bond Corp to buy the bonds back at face value in 1992.

Parkfield  
shares  
suspended

By COLIN CAMPBELL

SHARES in Roger Felber's Parkfield Group, the video and engineering group, were suspended yesterday at 48p pending clarification of its financial position.

Parkfield, which recently financed the film *The Krays*, has been in talks with its bankers, and is due to make a formal statement later today.

The group gave a warning last month that profits for the year to the end of April would be "disappointing".

One week later the company sought to dispel "many unfounded rumours" about its financial position.

It added that year end results would be published by the end of July.

The shares traded at a 12-month peak of 518p in early January, valuing the group at about £263 million. Yesterday, they fell 7p to 48p.

The company said "no comment" to various press questions last night and merely stuck to its formal announcement that a further statement could be expected today.

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# CGS takes control of Hoskyns for £199m

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK

CAP Gemini Sogefi, the pan-European software services and information technology group has taken a 69.5 per cent stake in Hoskyns, Britain's biggest computer services specialist for £199 million.

The Paris company, which in May categorically ruled out a bid for Hoskyns, has acquired the controlling stake from Plessey Overseas, a subsidiary of GEC/Siemens, for 330p a share, valuing Hoskyns at £286 million.

Hoskyns, whose shares jumped 62p to 357p, will keep its existing management and stock market listing at least until 1992. CGS will then bid in cash for the remaining shares within three months of Hoskyns announcing its results for the year ending October 31, 1992.

CGS said it will pay a minimum price per share at that time of either 469p or a 23 times earnings multiple for the year to end-October 1992, depending on which is greater. The maximum payable will be 660p a share.

Serge Kampf, CGS founder and executive chairman who had insisted a bid for Hoskyns was impossible, saying it "didn't fit with the group's 'seven golden rules about acquisitions'", was not available for comment. But Michel Berty, the secretary-general, said

CGS, which never makes hostile bids, wanted Hoskyns approval before proceeding.

Geoff Unwin, the chairman of Hoskyns who will join the executive committee of CGS, said both companies had been talking for months and that CGS's strategy was most "closely aligned" to its own.

CGS operates a small but fast-growing British software subsidiary providing command control systems for emergency services, and also holds a 25 per cent stake in Sema Group, the Anglo-French computer services company quoted in London. CGS said it wants Hoskyns to continue its programme of acquisitive expansion throughout the world, and will "fully support this growth".

Hoskyns was put on the market seven months ago by GEC/Siemens. Pre-tax profit reached £24.9 million on turnover of £188.7 million in the year to end-October 1989. In the half-year to end-April, pre-tax profit rose 21 per cent to £8.2 million with earnings up 17 per cent to 6.3p.

Headland, the USM-quoted computing services company which last month shed a quarter of its staff and gave warning of a "significant" interim loss, said it is in talks with a third party regarding a possible refinancing.

# Casinos win for Stanley

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

STANLEY Leisure, Leonard Steinberg's bookmaking and casino group, increased taxable profits despite a £2 million loss on its investment in Leisure Investments which is now in receivership. The loss has been written off as an extraordinary item.

Pre-tax profits for the year to end-April rose from £5.09 million to £8.4 million on turnover of £154 million, up from £107 million. The retained profit for the year fell from £2.24 million to £1.93 million. Earnings per share rose from 17.1p to 19.1p. The final dividend is 3.4p, making 5.4p for the year, an increase of 20 per cent. There will be a one-for-five bonus issue.

All divisions increased profits. The casino division more than doubled its contribution to £5.34 million because of the improved performance of provincial casinos and the January purchase of eight new casinos. Racing profits rose 50 per cent to £5.4 million.

Central financing costs rose from £1.09 million to £2.74 million. The gearing ratio is currently 29.8 per cent.

Mr Steinberg, chairman, says trading in all divisions is running at satisfactory levels and the board is confident of a successful outcome for the current year. The shares fell 1p to 206p.



Strong hand: Leonard Steinberg of Stanley Leisure

## Sterling breaks through DM3

THE pound climbed above the DM3.00 yesterday for the first time since October 9 last year. The pound touched DM3.0045 before closing at DM2.9929, up 1.12 pfennig.

Hopes of lower American interest rates helped sterling to a 19-month high of \$1.8300.

But after congressional testimony from Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, the pound closed at \$1.8203, up nearly a cent.

Mr Greenspan said the underlying trend in America continued to show inflation moderating. The Fed has

upped its inflation projection for 1990 by a percentage point to 4.5 to 5.0 per cent.

The American consumer price index rose 0.4 per cent on June, excluding food and energy, which means a core inflation in the year to June of 4.9 per cent.

# Spanish group in £500m flotation

By WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU in MADRID and DEREK HARRIS INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SPAIN'S largest privately-held industrial group is to raise almost £500 million in an international stock flotation.

Banco Espanol de Credito (Banesto), Spain's third largest bank, is to sell off a 26 per cent stake in La Corporación Banesto, which accounts for 1 per cent of Spain's gross domestic product. Banesto currently holds a 77 per cent stake in the conglomerate.

Spanish investors will be offered 40 per cent of the shares. The rest will be placed in Britain, Switzerland, Germany, America, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Japan and Scandinavia. Stockbroker UBS Phillips and Drew is managing the offer.

"Our goal... is to diversify our shareholder base" so that there are "no major share blocks anywhere," said Mario Conde, Banesto chairman.

Banesto intends to retain 51 per cent of the industrial group, whose interests range from insurance to the manufacture of car batteries and cellulose fibres.

La Corporación Banesto was created earlier this month after the government gave Banesto the go-ahead for a 19 billion peseta (£104 million) tax break on capital gains from ownership changes in the group.

The bank also said it planned new acquisitions and joint ventures.

It was announced yesterday that British Steel has agreed to buy a 40 per cent stake in Aristrain, Europe's third largest construction steel manufacturer, for an undisclosed sum. La Corporación Banesto will hold a 40 per cent stake in the company.

The deal marks continued efforts by British Steel to strengthen its position in the European market for construction steel.

British Steel's efforts to gain a foothold in Spain ran into problems with Spanish regulators who did not want a strategic industry like steel to fall into foreign hands. The purchase was finally allowed to go ahead after a joint venture deal had been worked out.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

# Midland cuts 392 jobs in streamlining move

MIDLAND Bank is to cut 392 jobs in its group operations, mainly involving information technology and electronic services. A bank spokesman said: "The staff have been informed. We are now looking at voluntary redundancies and informed. We have spoken to the unions." Group redeployment, and we have spoken to the unions." Group operations accounts for about one fifth of the bank's total workforce of about 60,000. The spokesman said this was part of the bank's rationalisation programme.

Midland has been trimming staff and cutting back on costs in an effort to cut its cost-income ratio which, at 72.4 per cent at end-1989, is the highest of the top four British banks. In March last year, the bank announced that more than 2,000 jobs were to be lost during the year.

## Tate reference set aside

THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission has laid aside the reference of Tate & Lyle's proposed bid for Berisford. Tate & Lyle dropped its plans almost two weeks ago. The Office of Fair Trading is now considering whether to refer Associated British Food's expected bid for British Sugar. Berisford's sugar division, to the monopolies commission.

## No Beaverco final dividend

BEAVERCO has axed its final dividend after diving into the red, leaving 1.9p for the year. This compares with last year's final of 5.6p, making 7.5p. The USM foam and consumer products manufacturer suffered a pre-tax loss of £177,000 in the year to end-March, compared with a profit of £2.4 million. Turnover grew by 22 per cent to £53 million.

## Farmers in USM plan

ASSOCIATED Farmers, the agricultural company, plans to graduate from the Third Market to the USM after a merger with privately-owned Sentry Farm Management, via a recommended all-shares offer by Associated Farmers valuing Sentry at £1.09 million. The enlarged group will be one of Britain's largest farm-management companies, farming and managing 38,000 acres. Associated Farmers also proposes to raise £915,000 with a seven-for-13 rights issue at 61p a share to reduce borrowings and redeem shares being issued to Legal and General as part of the merger agreement. Shares in Associated were suspended at 86p ahead of yesterday's announcement. Trading is expected to resume on August 13.

## BWD falls to £679,000

INTERIM profits at BWD Securities, the USM-quoted broker, fell from £759,000 to £679,000. The dividend was held at 1p. The fall reflected the 15 per cent drop in share bargains facing the industry. Turnover rose 18 per cent to £4.04 million because of the acquisition of two offices from Laing & Crickshank. Administrative costs were up almost a third.

## Anheuser raises \$100m

ANHEUSER-BUSCH, the largest brewer in the world, has raised \$100 million through a "public note" issue. The notes, which carry an 8 1/2 per cent coupon and are due in 1995, were issued through Goldman Sachs. The funds will be used for repayment of short-term debt taken on to fund last year's \$1.1 billion acquisition of Sea World, the theme park company.

## Bespak up to £3.9m

HIGHER capital spending at Bespak, the manufacturer of aerosol valve systems, held back profits growth in the year to April 27. The pre-tax figures rose 5 per cent to £3.91 million. Sales rose by 17 per cent to £23.6 million, with direct exports up by 35 per cent to about 20 per cent of group sales.

Robert King, the chairman and chief executive, said research and development spending, half of which is funded by customers, grew to about £2 million, with Bespak's contribution nearly doubling. Earnings per share climbed from 17.6p to 19.4p. The final dividend is improved to 4.4p (3.75p), making a total of 7p (6p) for the year. Interest costs jumped from £103,000 to £396,000. Gearing stood at about 41 per cent. The shares firmed 4p to 317p.

# The growth. The sales. The profits. We made the whole thing up.

We thought it was time to tell you the whole story about the Taunton Cider Company.

So when you examine our performance (see figs. 1 and 2), you'll understand what's going on.

In short we make things up because that's the way to market leadership. (Creating new and lucrative brands in new and lucrative parts of the cider market.)

As early as 1970 we had created a new keg cider with a unique dry taste.

The taste rapidly established Dry Blackthorn as Britain's favourite draught cider. Today it's still No.1.\*

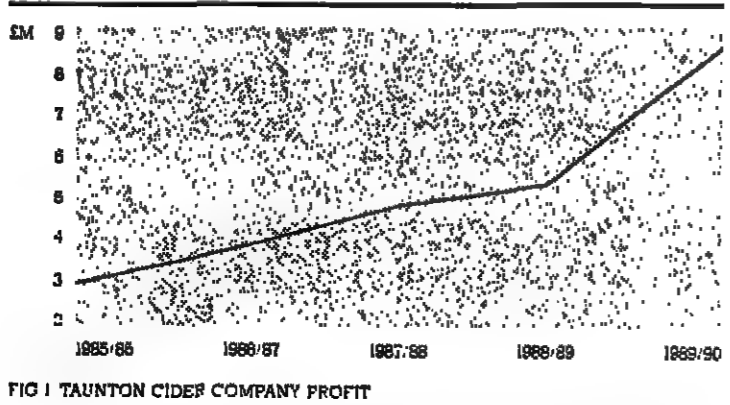


FIG 1 TAUNTON CIDER COMPANY MARKET SHARE

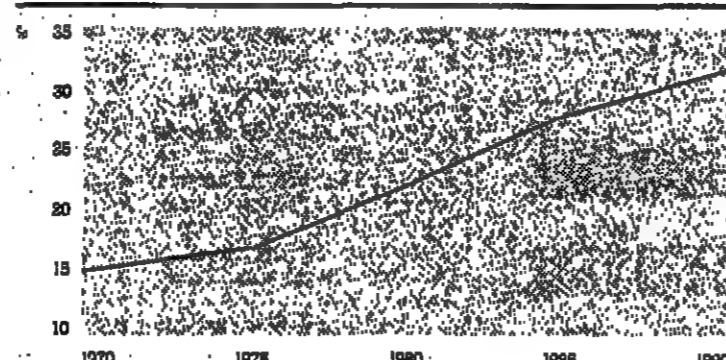


FIG 2 TAUNTON CIDER COMPANY PROFIT

In Red Rock we're creating the UK's first premium draught cider. To satisfy a new generation of drinkers with their own premium tastes and values.

As we've made up this portfolio of brands, so we've supported them. Since 1988 no other cider maker has invested more in advertising.

This year we're putting a record £11 million behind our brands.

So in less than 20 years our share of the market has doubled. Establishing us as not only the UK's most innovative cider maker but also by far the most successful.

Which seems like two pretty good reasons for making things up.



TAUNTON MEANS BUSINESS

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: THE TAUNTON CIDER COMPANY LTD, NORTON FITZWARRREN, TAUNTON, SOMERSET TA2 6RD TEL. 0823 332211.

\* Source: Sales MR Total On Licence 12 months to Feb - Mar 1990

# Henry Ansbacher interim up 131%

By JONATHAN PRYNN

HENRY Ansbacher, the merchant bank that was put up for sale last month, yesterday reported a 131 per cent increase in interim profits. It also revealed that there had been several expressions of interest in buying the key 61.6 per cent controlling stake in the bank.

The stake was put up for sale by the bank's majority shareholder group of Paragon Holdings, Groupe Bruxelles Lambert and Banque Internationale a Luxembourg after a "strategic review" of its investments.

Richard Fenhalls, Ansbacher's chief executive, said letters had been received from potential buyers in North America, Japan and Europe as well as a British non-bank financial services firm.

The original deadline for enquiries falls at the end of next week though this is likely to be extended. Mr Fenhalls said a short list would be



Fenhalls: buying interest drawn up by about mid-August. Negotiations were unlikely to be completed before mid-October. The sale of the stake is being handled by N M Rothschild.

Ansbacher's interim figures showed a rise in pre-tax profits from £2.19 million to £5.07 million. Mr Fenhalls said this reflected improved performance in the bank's treasury, British corporate finance and Third World debt trading activities.

## US labs sale threatened

From PHILIP ROBINSON in LOS ANGELES

THE American justice department will attempt to block the \$150 million sale by Twentieth Century Fox of its colour print laboratory to Rank Organisation on the grounds that it restricts competition.

The department is expected to file a legal action against Fox to try to block the move. Fox, owned by The News Corporation, which also owns The Times, says it intends to defend the sale vigorously.

## COMPANY BRIEFS

**MICROGEN (Int)**  
Pre-tax: £4.53m (£4.89m)  
EPS: 7.1p (8.2p)  
Div: 2.2p (2.2p)

**BERTAM HOLDINGS (Fin)**  
Pre-tax: £1.41m (£2.54m)  
EPS: 4.58p (8.84p)  
Div: 2.2p mkg 2.2p (3p)

**GEN COMS INV TST (Int)**  
Pre-tax: £3.04m (£2.88m)  
EPS: 4.90p (4.55p)  
Div: 4.3p (4.0p)

**GROSVENOR DEV CAP**  
Pre-tax: £0.05m (£20,000)  
EPS: 0.47p (0.72p)  
Div: none

**MOORGATE INV TST (Fin)**  
Pre-tax: £1.99m (£1.67m)  
EPS: 10.37p (8.83p)  
Div: 7p mkg 10.2p

**TINSLEY (ELIZA) GROUP**  
Pre-tax: £1.32m (£1.41m)  
EPS: 11.88p (12.52p)  
Div: 3.4p mkg 5.2p

Turnover climbed to £25.1m (£23m). There was an extraordinary credit of £215,000. Sustained growth expected in medium and long term.

Turnover slipped from £1.74m to £1.45m. Interest receipts climb from £293,000 to £481,000. Tax stood at £493,000 (£771,000).

The net asset value stood at £225.3p (£250.7p) per capital share. The directors expect to recommend a final dividend of at least 5.9p.

The results are for five months, against previous 11 1/2 month period. Basic net asset value was 134.7p (£129.6p), diluted 129.3p (£127.0p).

Net asset value was 227.0p (£248.1p). Directors recommend issue of new ordinary shares for each share held.

Final results. Last year's total dividend was 4.8p. Turnover climbed to £16.5m (£14.2m). Company said profits recovered in last quarter.

# EC fines British Steel for cartel

From PETER GUILFORD in BRUSSELS

BRITISH Steel and several other European stainless steel producers have been fined by the European commission for conspiring to rig the market and fix prices between 1986 and 1988.

After a protracted enquiry that began when EC investigators raided the companies' headquarters to crack the suspected cartel, Brussels has found seven firms guilty of carving up the market in 17 European countries by setting permitted tonnages of steel four times a year. They are also accused of operating a "pricing committee" to rig prices.

The cartel, covering all sizes and grades of cold rolled stainless-steel flat products, was deemed to violate the European Union's Coal and Steel Community treaty, which regulates the EC steel market. British Steel and Thyssen, Edeltahlwerke, of West Germany, have each been fined £35,000. Ugine Aciers de Châtillon et Gueugnon, of France, Krupp Stahl, of Germany, and Terni Acciai Speciali, of Italy, all face fines of £70,000. Belgium's ALZ has been fined £17,500. Spanish, Swedish and Finnish firms allegedly in the cartel have been spared.

The case highlights the commission's difficulties in trying to enforce competition in some sectors of the steel market while continuing to permit quotas in others. The commission admits that the fines were, as a result, deliberately set low.

It said: "The fines are very much reduced from the levels that would normally have been appropriate in cases of serious infringements of the competition rules. The commission had previously established a quota regime for other steel products and the understanding that the normal operation of the rules of competition had been modified."

## Cleves

Reg Burt, chairman of Millwall Football Club, was a consultant to Cleves Investments, the corporate finance company, ordered to cease business, until December. Burt was never that company's chairman. This corrects yesterday's report.

## THE

## Advani joins Wedd old boys

Advani, the one-time Wedd partner who has been absent from the firm since he returned from a year in the US, has been rehired. He is now a partner in the firm's London office. The firm's chairman, Lord Wedd, said: "Advani's return to the firm is a very welcome development. He has been a valuable member of the team and his return will strengthen the firm's position in the market."

# Burton faces a confidence gap

## COMMENT

DAVID BREWERTON

Some analysts are beginning to say extreme, and extremely unwise, things about Burton Group. They are suggesting that Burton is the next Next, which went off the boil in the high street and off the rails with the City. Similarities can be found, but they are outnumbered by the differences. The main one is that Burton has a "hard core" retailing business which will ride the economic waves, whereas Next was swamped by them.

But if Burton is misunderstood it has only itself, or to be more specific its chairman, to blame. Communication with the major shareholders has become uncomfortable, spasmodic and hostile. It was not helped yesterday when Burton issued two statements, one in the early afternoon on the sale of the financial services division to GE Capital and the second ninety minutes later on the decision to get out of property. The gap smacks either of chaotic organisation or making decisions on the run, neither of which inspires great confidence.

The decisions themselves are unlikely to be challenged, for they

make perfect sense for a group with borrowings which, when everything is taken into account, would be running at about the same level as shareholders funds. The sale of the financial services division brings in hard cash and relieves the books of substantial debt. If the same could be achieved on a sale of property, Burton would be in good shape to prosper when the high street picks up. In the meantime, by announcing the intention to sell the property operations, Burton has given itself the option of taking any losses and provisions below the line, rather than out of profits for the year to end August. It is an optical illusion of the kind that analysts have grown to see through.

Burton and its chairman are retailers first, and the City will be reacting positively to the commitment to focus on the core activity, rather than capital-hungry financial services and property. But there is a little of a

property man in virtually all retailers, and there is enough in Sir Ralph Halpern to tell him that to sell out now might be making Burton's exit at the bottom of the market. A good offer will be required to persuade him to get out in one bound, rather than to trade out as opportunities develop.

There was, however, a less welcome side to the twin press releases. It has been speculated that Sir Ralph is to bow to institutional pressure to split the roles of chairman and chief executive, the combination of which has given him what some institutions see as too much power and too high a salary. Nobody would dispute what Sir Ralph has achieved in dragging

Burton from obscurity into a major force in British retailing, but that does not give him a lifetime line on both jobs. He is aware of institutional feeling on the issue, and will probably announce his decision to hand over day-to-day management at the same time as results are declared in the autumn.

## Power steering

Institutions are becoming increasingly uncomfortable with the roles of chairman and chief executive being combined, even where there are not specific difficulties. Not all such companies end up in trouble, but a combined role is a common

factor in many companies which do. Near the top of the list must be Ferranti International, where Sir Derek Alun-Jones conceived, executed and subsequently paid for, through the loss of his job, the ill-starred takeover of International Signal. Puffing along a few paces behind runs John Gunn of British & Commonwealth pursued by a cast of overblown egos.

Although the tide of institutional opinion is nevertheless running strongly against the roles being combined, the institutions tend to wait for a lapse of some kind before bringing particular pressure to bear, and it appears that Sir Ralph's name has come to the top of the list.

Nearly one third of quoted British companies combine the two jobs, and among them are some spectacularly strong companies, where the undiluted, driving, entrepreneurial spirit has worked for the benefit of shareholders. But even at some of

the most successful companies where the roles are combined, the restraining hand of a strong chairman might have usefully controlled the enthusiasms of the all-powerful chief executive.

He might, for instance, have prevented Gerald Ratner from getting into the curious position of having to launch a second rights issue before the first is subscribed, as he did a couple of years ago, or from running into problems with the junk bond lobby as he is with the Kay's purchase.

At the same time, Ratners may have been a less rewarding investment had Gerald not been given his head. And would Mecca have been running its debts so high if an independent chairman had been forced to worry about them?

But more dangerous, I suggest, are companies where there appears to be an independent chairman, but where the balance of power is so weighted, either by personality, size of shareholding, boardroom politics, or a lazy incumbent, that the chief executive still has virtually unchallenged power.

IN SCENES likely to be more reminiscent of an Oriental bazaar than a normal corporate results presentation, 12 company chairmen will meet the City this morning.

The City is not greatly interested. The figures for the year to end-March of the 12 electricity distribution companies are already largely known, as is the fact that they will miss their government-set financial targets. About the most interesting figure likely to emerge is that the companies spent £22 million on costs associated with the privatisation in the 1989/90 financial year, even before the publicity juggernaut got into second gear; a sum described as "staggering" by one analyst.

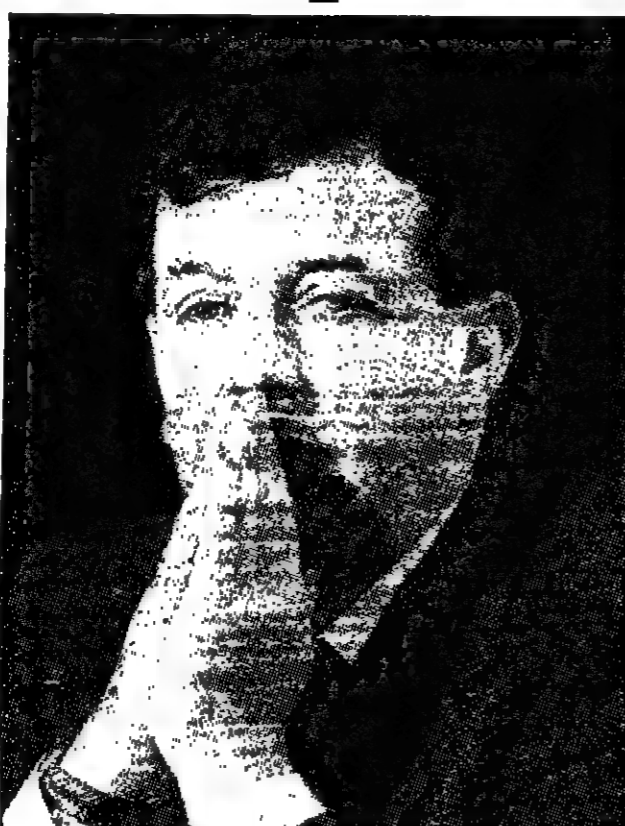
The 12 will reveal that total turnover rose more than 9 per cent but that aggregate operating profits were only up 1.9 per cent, a fall in real terms. On a current cost accounting basis, that rise was 2.3 per cent.

The City is more concerned about what the financial structure of the 12 companies will be as a result of the tough negotiations between the companies and John Wakeham, the energy secretary.

For the first time, the companies are being given the chance to sell themselves to the analysts on an official basis. Under the farcical set-up devised for the privatisation, none of the 12 can pick up the phone and initiate contact with the City. Under the cumbersome verification procedures, even the most insignificant fact about their businesses has to be checked and cross-checked before it can be released.

The power industry flotation, compared with other government sell-offs, has two significant features that make this gagging process even more damaging. The need to break up the old Central Electricity Generating Board monopoly into 16 separate companies has extended the time scale. That break-up, along with the complex "pool" or market in electricity, means power is the most difficult privatisation to understand. A number of analysts, in particular those

# Electricity facing hard time from a soft peddle



John Wakeham: tough talks with power companies

working for the shrinking band of institutions that have no formal connection with the companies being sold off, have complained that their work in getting to grips with the industry is badly hampered by the excessive secrecy.

The unkind, and perhaps unworthy, suspicion is growing that the distribution companies are being deliberately held back from selling themselves as hard as they would like because of the difficulty

the government perceives in selling the other half of the power industry, the two big generating companies, next spring.

Analysis believe the 12 could come to the market with no problems. Their main business, distribution, is extremely stable, despite the scare stories that have emerged suggesting large amounts of their workload could be lost.

There are clear cost savings that can still be made, while

most have hefty retail operations thrown in virtually for nothing in the current retail environment but which could prove their worth once the economy picks up.

The generators, PowerGen and the larger National Power, are a rather different proposition. There are uncertainties over how they can fund and build enough plant to keep the lights on into the next decade, or how they can cope with more stringent anti-pollution requirements. The latest fear being raised is that the pool arrangement, by revealing which are the most profitable stations, may allow the unions to target more effectively any future industrial action.

A few analysts believe the two are unsaleable in their current form, and that the float, when it comes, will have to be massaged in some way: perhaps by only selling off half the companies, or a sale by a placing or tender offer which would effectively leave Sid on the sidelines. That is a course of action that would have its attractions to many people within the generating industry.

The distribution company chairmen will go into bat today armed with a thick briefing paper from their financial adviser, the merchant bank NM Rothschild, telling them just what they can and cannot say. They are allowed to say, presumably through clenched teeth, "We have negotiated a tough but fair capital structure." They cannot say that the government is loading £1.9 billion of debt on to their balance sheets, or that their gearing ratios therefore will range from 30 per cent to 45 per cent as of next March 31, until that figure is announced in parliament, most likely next Tuesday.

The document is full of helpful advice like: "Make no forecast of future demand." Most of the 12 chairmen will be glad when December rolls around, and the dead hand of the department is lifted. A lot are saving up some interesting facts and comments on their current masters for then.

Martin Waller

## THE TIMES CITY DIARY

### Advani joins Wedd old boys

DAVID Advani, the one-time Wedd Durlacher partner who has been absent from the Square Mile since he retired from BZW a year ago, is back. On Monday he joined Fiske & Co, the medium-sized independent agency broker that is traditionally known for dealing in oil stocks. His arrival will heighten the firm's reputation as something of a haven for former Wedd partners. Attracted by its partnership-style culture, instilled by Clive Harrison, the chairman and managing director, it has already become home to colourful Charlie Philipson and Tim Bullimore, both once Wedd partners and then also with Barclays de Zoete Wedd. "After twiddling my thumbs at home, managing my family funds, I decided I wanted to come back," says Advani, a well-known stock market character. "I missed the buzz of the City. I drew up a short list of people who wanted me to join them and decided that I wanted something small and friendly, without the bureaucracy and politics of a big firm. And then I discovered that two of my former partners were already with Fiske..." Advani will once again focus on smaller companies. "I will be researching them, looking at corporate finance opportunities and selling equities. The sector has been bombed out for so long that it is now time to start looking at it again," he added.

LET us hope that the idea does not spread... In America a former bank manager has written to his local newspaper in Pittsburgh, admitting that he spanked more than 50 of his customers during the late 1970s for falling behind with their loan repayments. "I never had any trouble with them afterwards," he said.

### Brown for UBS

JAMES Capel, the government's adviser on the privatisation of the electricity industry, has lost one of its specialist natural resources salesmen - Malcolm Brown, aged 29 - to UBS Phillips & Drew. Brown, who deals in oil, water and electricity stocks, had been with Capel for five years. The oil team there was ranked second in its

sector in the latest Extel survey. "He starts with us on September 10," says a UBS spokesman. "We have been strengthening our natural resources team on all fronts because, apart from the privatisations, we think the sector will become a heavy-weight part of portfolios." Brown will be working alongside two other specialist salesmen, who have also just joined the firm, Joe Malinowski, from Postel, the Post Office pension fund, and Alex Thistlethwaite, an Exeter university graduate. At the same time, Peter Beck, who had been the overall head of UBS's natural resources team, has been promoted to head of European equities. He has been replaced by Mike Cowling, aged 50, who, until two years ago, ran the specialist oils sales desk at Wood Mackenzie. Cowling, after brief spells at Morgan Grenfell and Robert Fleming, joined UBS last September. "We have been building up a new team," he says. "We have the number one analyst in water, which can only improve, and we want to be number one in electricity."

### On line for charity

SPECIALIST electronics salesman Colin Line, employed by agency broker Henderson Crosthwaite, brought his charitable activities to work yesterday. Line, aged 48, regularly accompanies invalids to Lourdes, Vienna and Salzburg as part of his work for the Across Trust, and it was he who was responsible for the appearance in the City of six blue and white "jumbulances", four even larger Aligator jumbulances, and teams of brightly dressed volunteers who did their best to persuade commuters and lunch-time sunbathers to part with their spare cash. The jumbulances, fully equipped with beds, and used by the charity to convey the pilgrims, cost £300,000 each. Other regular City supporters of the trust are John Hoskin, of Gernard Vivian Gray, and Michael Down of Moore & Rowlands, the accountancy firm. They hope that yesterday's efforts will have raised at least £15,000.

### Warning signs

WITH profit warnings and downgradings now a daily occurrence, a check list for investors to help them detect potentially insolvent companies has been doing the rounds. According to Bill Mackey, a chartered accountant in the City, and a receivership ex-



"Operator? There appears to be the sound of an extortionate price increase on the line."

Carol Leonard

## TEMPUS Funding First Leisure

INVESTORS would be hard pressed to identify for which specific purpose First Leisure is calling for £30.8 million of new funds, but the only market gripe is that its two lords, Rayne and Delfont, are leaping at their entitlement in full. Thus there is little chance of institutions picking up a larger slice of an illiquid stock.

The issue is one-for-eight at 182p, and will be put behind the core business, used to clip borrowings, and help the development programme, which is running at £60 million this year.

First Leisure today completes a contract to buy one of Europe's largest discos, Metropool near Amsterdam. Only two weeks ago, the group opened its first large leisure park in Milton Keynes, Bucks.

Although the economic climate still makes life tough, interim pre-tax profits for the period ended April 29 are 22.6 per cent up at £10.1 million, and there is a 37.8 per cent increase in the interim dividend to 1.55p a share. A similar percentage increase is promised for the year's final.

A property revaluation lifts net worth from 84.7p a share at the end of October to 145.2p now.

The group may fall short of its net earnings growth target of 20 per cent unless profits top market estimates of about £30.5 million, but the target will be within reach so long as

1991 profits advance to £40 million, equivalent to net earnings of 18.8p a share.

The shares have merely tracked the market in recent months, and on a prospective p/e of 14.1 at 221p, up 6p, are up with events.

### Cityvision

CITYVISION hit a nasty burst of static when its £26 million rights issue flopped in March. Until then, the group had been one of the market's favourite smaller go-go stocks, riding on the crest of the video wave.

The rights issue flop may have had one positive effect, in that it reined in some of the more ambitious plans for diversification, but as a one-for-six with only a 6 per cent take-up, it left a lot of shares in the wrong place.

The shares, as high as 146p in January, have yet to recover, and a 4p rise to 111p on the back of excellent half-way figures still leaves them 9p below the rights price.

Pre-tax profits of £8.37 million compare with £4.62 million last time, and the interim dividend is doubled. The group has 775 video rental stores open in Britain and should have no trouble reaching 1,500, at which stage the British market will start to look saturated, within 18 months.

Further sharp increases in

turnover and profit, therefore, are virtually assured, and the rights at least left the balance sheet strong. Diversification into Europe, particularly Italy and Spain, will come, bringing with it the inevitable risks of such a move. The first sell-through store in Britain opens in September.

The downside is still that fears of increased competition on the high street remain, although Cityvision is well placed to compete in a price war. There are also the group's depreciation policies, which have attracted mild City criticism.

The upside is the proven management ability and the opportunities for organic growth. The shares sell on about 10.8 times future earnings. Not a spectacular performer in coming months, but perhaps one to tuck away.

### HP Bulmer

LET us hope there is more sparkle in HP Bulmer's ciders than in its results. Year-end profits, up from £10.5 million to £12 million, were below City forecasts already clipped back by an average £2 million after the benzene scare at Perrier, for whom Bulmer is British distributor, and a yeast infection which led to the withdrawal of one-litre cider bottles from supermarkets.

Even though Perrier picked up the bill for disposing of contaminated bottles, supplies

ran dry for two months and Bulmer's other mineral waters could not compensate for the loss of sales.

These exceptional events cost about £1 million in lost profits, implying that Bulmer was still running behind expectations despite last year's hot, thirsty summer which triggered the first upturn in national cider sales for five years.

The City and Bulmer may have underestimated the cost of beefing up the sales force to cash in on MMC orders to free cider in tied outlets. The MMC has effectively opened up about 20,000 public houses to Bulmer's ciders, and the sales force has been doubled to 112.

Capital expenditure of £17.5 million, almost double last year's levels, will inevitably impact on interest charges, which last year rose £2 million to almost £5 million. A return to a normal tax charge of 30 per cent, against only 24 per cent, will further restrict earnings growth, now that Australian tax losses have been exhausted.

Investors must ask whether Bulmer has the resources to do justice to its brands without causing damage to prospects in the short-term. The shares, down 3p to 170p, trade on a prospective p/e of 11.25 on pre-tax profits of £13.8 million. The rating is high for a family-controlled company.

# SHL 1990. It's going to be a vintage year...

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Transforming ICI into one of Britain's best run companies. Sir John will give his views on identifying and motivating management talent within organisations.

### Major General Sir Jeremy Moore, KCB, OBE, MC

Sir Jeremy will draw on his illustrious military career to demonstrate those themes and lessons of leadership and team building that transpose to the business world.

### Professor Bernard Bass

Professor Bass, with an international reputation for research into leadership, will discuss characteristics of effective leaders, and techniques for their assessment and development.

### Professor Hans Eysenck, PhD, DSc, C.Psychol.

Professor Eysenck will discuss his theories of personality and intelligence and their implications for the world of work.

Two distinguished public figures will be speaking after-dinner to further enhance each evening's entertainment. Chay Blyth and Christopher Gable will be drawing on their own vivid experiences to make observations on leadership and assessment in the development of effective teams.

For further information on the Saville and Holdsworth Contemporary Trends in Assessment Conference, please contact Customer Services at the address below:

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Saville & Holdsworth  
CONFERENCE

CONTEMPORARY TRENDS IN ASSESSMENT

PLATING	
PLATE	PRICE
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1001	1001
1002	1002
1003	1003
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# Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this overall total. Add them up to give you your daily dividend figure. If it matches your share price, you are on track. If it is higher, you have won outright. If it is lower, you have lost. If you win, follow the prize money stated. If you lose, follow the prize money stated. If you win, follow the prize money stated. If you lose, follow the prize money stated.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Nichols (N) (Vint)	Wine	1.00
2	Granger	Property	1.00
3	Channon	Property	1.00
4	Wardle Stores Plc	Chemicals, Plastics	1.00
5	Newman Titm	Building, Roads	1.00
6	Compas Plc	Leisure	1.00
7	Reed Int (a)	Newspapers, Pub	1.00
8	Vaux Group	Breweries	1.00
9	Style	Shoes, Leather	1.00
10	Person (a)	Newspapers, Pub	1.00
11	Vickers	Industrial S-Z	1.00
12	Rothchild (a) Ltd	Banking, Discount	1.00
13	BP Ind (a)	Building, Roads	1.00
14	Macmillan Repro	Electricals	1.00
15	Russell (a)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
16	Warburg SG	Banking, Discount	1.00
17	STC (a)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
18	Givern (a)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
19	THORN EM (a)	Electricals	1.00
20	Shandwick	Paper, Print, Adv	1.00
21	Watson & Philip	Food	1.00
22	TIP Europe	Transport	1.00
23	Laporte (a)	Chemicals, Plastics	1.00
24	Blue Circle (a)	Building, Roads	1.00
25	Scapa	Industrial S-Z	1.00
26	South West	Water	1.00
27	Brake Bros	Food	1.00
28	Adcock	Newspapers, Pub	1.00
29	De Polythene	Industrial S-Z	1.00
30	Green Walker	Leisure	1.00
31	Shiloh	Industrial S-Z	1.00
32	Amesbury (Henry)	Banking, Discount	1.00
33	Culver	Drugs, Stores	1.00
34	Gent SR	Drugs, Stores	1.00
35	Low (Wm)	Food	1.00
36	Liberty	Drugs, Stores	1.00
37	Flexico C&W	Industrial S-Z	1.00
38	Rank Org (a)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
39	Abbey National (a)	Banking, Discount	1.00
40	Hawker Siddeley (a)	Industrial S-Z	1.00
41	Rodland (a)	Building, Roads	1.00
42	Matthews (Bernard)	Food	1.00

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The prize money will be added to today's total.

## BRITISH FUNDS

1990	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	P/E
50%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
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## OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
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## UNDATED

100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
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## INDEX-LINKED

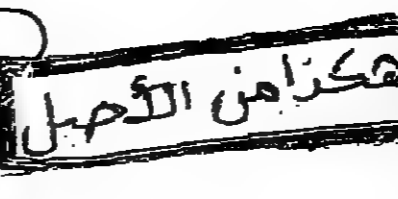
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## BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

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## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

# Shares mixed



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 9. Dealings end tomorrow. Contango day July 23. Settlement day July 30. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES: PAGE 28).

1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## BREWERIES

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## BUILDING, ROADS

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## FINANCE, LAND

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## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

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## FOODS

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## CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

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## DRAPERY, STORES

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## INDUSTRIALS A-D

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## NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

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## OILS, GAS

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## OVERSEAS TRADERS

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## PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

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## SHOES, LEATHER

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1990	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	P/E
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## WATER

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# Portfolio PLATINUM

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NEWSPAPER  
DISPLAY  
(SUN/NEWS)  
SAL

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vices of the World.

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520-524 lines	£53.00	£5.45
525-529 lines	£53.50	£5.50
530-534 lines	£54.00	£5.55



# The prize-winning pride of the Clyde

STEPHEN MARKESON



A group of Glasgow tenants has won the top award in the nationwide scheme to promote local self-help initiatives. Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent, reports

Units 48-50 in Block 8 on an industrial estate is the unglamorous address of The Factory, a Clydeside workplace, training centre and social focus for more than 20 tenant associations. But tonight it will be the centre of attention as the occupants, the Port Glasgow Association of Tenants Groups, celebrate winning the top prize for community enterprise — the Charles Douglas-Horne Award, and £5,000.

They have created, the award assessors said, "a most enterprising and constructive response by grassroots community groups to an appalling long-term local employment and economic situation arising from the collapse of the ship-building industry".

The PGATG, formed in 1980 from several local groups which represent more than 50 per cent of the town, joined forces to tackle local issues, from providing transport (minibuses for the use of tenants to a dial-a-bus service for the disabled and infirm), to campaigning for better housing, creating job opportunities for local people and managing and developing resources.

As an MSC Management Agency it employed 180 people on training initiatives at its peak.

With funding from an Urban Aid Grant, the unit was purchased and the interior converted with help from Ian Millegan, a regional community architect with Strathclyde regional council in Paisley, into a multi-purpose centre with workshops, training centre, health studio, recreational facilities, drop-in centre, offices, crèche and a commu-

nity arts section which houses video and photographic facilities.

A recording studio has been built at the back and plans for a day care centre for the elderly are well advanced.

The premises, comprising 18,000sq ft, cost £130,000 and opened in autumn 1986. All but £10,000 was provided by the grant, as well as £98,000 as revenue budget in 1989.

The Urban Aid package is due to end in October 1992, when the centre must become self-financing.

An adjacent unit, bought for £60,000 18 months ago, is used by a subsidiary company, Training Services (Inverclyde), which teaches building trades and which will, hopefully, provide a valuable source of revenue in two years' time, and the Construction and Trading Co, another community business.

Staffed by volunteers and open seven days a week, The Factory is run by two representatives from each of the ten tenant associations. They are occasionally joined by non-voting advisers, such as business owners, a senior community worker and a community employment worker.

"Its value to the community in both practical and morale terms is enormous," the assessors said. "They have made very effective and efficient use of the resources they have been able to obtain. With the aid of the architect, they have created a most attractive and useful interior."

"This is a continuing process as further developments are initiated and plans for the exterior are implemented."



Working towards a brighter future for their community: some of the members of the award-winning Port Glasgow Association of Tenants Groups

The Prince of Wales writes on 'the most imaginative, viable and need-fulfilling' community scheme

## 1,000 entries a testament to success

When I agreed to become Patron of the Community Enterprise Scheme five years ago, I doubt if many people were aware of the nature and extent of local initiatives which have been having such a remarkable impact in various parts of the country. More than 1,000 entries are a testament to success, yet each year the net is trawled wider in search of more local heroes — and heroines.

The changes brought about through community enterprise and partnership are more than merely cosmetic. On my visits to some of these projects I am often told how people's lives have been given a renewed sense of purpose once they realise the possibilities of putting their own ideas into practice. By coming together to improve the physical environment, there can be many unexpected spin-offs in health, wealth and happiness. One project leads to another — such as the setting up of training schemes and new businesses — and nothing

breeds confidence like success.

In identifying and rewarding "the most imaginative, viable and need-fulfilling" community development projects, the Scheme is really encouraging a better quality of life, not just for its participants, but for the country as a whole. It seeks to make neighbourhoods — whether in the inner cities or the outer estates, the suburbs or the most remote rural areas — more livable.

This is a concept that is hard to define, but I think we all recognise "livable" places when we see them. They have a character and an intimacy which can be created or assisted by imaginative design. Well-being permeates the very fabric of the neighbourhood, and is written on the faces of those who live there.

One example is this year's top award winner: the Factory, at Port Glasgow, entered by an association of tenant groups. Staffed by volunteers, and open seven days a week, it has converted a derelict factory into a community centre



The Prince of Wales: 'livable places can be created or assisted by imaginative design'

and workplace catering to hundreds of local people every week.

Another is the London Lighthouse, winner of the first annual award for community architecture. Who would have imagined that this residential and support centre for those living with HIV and Aids could be such a joyous place to visit? It was, said the assessors, one of the most uplifting buildings they had ever visited, due to the nature of the people, the skill or the architects and the power of the community architecture process at its best.

Innovative funding mechanisms are a feature of many of the winning entries this year, and it is an area that requires our special attention if we are to achieve the results we are all

seeking in the longer term. Last year's awards day was marked by a conference on "Breaking the Deadlock — Releasing the Energy", which provided a useful discussion of the issues and led to a working party report. Today the focus is on technical aid, with workshops on the theme "People and Professions — Making things Happen".

Next year, perhaps we should turn the spotlight on ensuring that community entrepreneurs are adequately resourced — not out of charity but out of genuine social commitment and social investment decisions, which will produce the desired social dividends.

The important task of rekindling community spirit and

'By coming together to improve the physical environment, there can be many unexpected spin-offs in health, wealth and happiness... and nothing breeds confidence like success'

the spirit of social enterprise demands a response from us which is both imaginative and practical. For the Scheme has proved over the last five years that where there's a will there's a way, no matter how traumatic the experience, how much cajoling and berating is

involved, nor how lengthy the process to eventual success.

In the words of the Chinese proverb: "Too many people spend too much time looking back with regret and forward with fear that they fail to realise the present is there offering them flowers".

## Wash-day winners



New business award: teamwork pays off for the Post Tub at Gateshead, a community launderette and snack bar

## A triumph despite funding problem

SIXTEEN awards, 11 commendations and 16 honours have been made this year in the fifth annual Community Enterprise Scheme, sponsored by The Times, the Royal Institute of British Architects and Business in the Community.

Prize money of more than £30,000 will be presented today, along with certificates and plaques, on behalf of the three main sponsors, the supporting organisations — the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Community Development Foundation, National Children's Play and Recreation Unit and the Housing Associations Charitable Trust — and the commercial sponsors — Barclays Bank, Shell UK, Marks & Spencer and the Post Office.

The purpose of the scheme is to identify and reward the most imaginative, viable and need-fulfilling community development projects in the United Kingdom.

This year there were three new categories for Community Architecture, Training and New Business.

Welcoming the awards, Lord Scarman, chairman,

said: "The fifth year has recorded the highest number of entries, bringing the total to more than 1,000. It is encouraging that so many projects are succeeding at a time when funding has become an acute problem in



Lord Scarman: 'Evidence of strength of purpose'

many areas. But it is also evidence of the strength of purpose of all the local communities involved that we have a record number of winners in all nine categories.

The sixth scheme will be launched on October 15, 1990.



Housing Associations Charitable Trust



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

THE NATIONAL Children's Play & Recreation UNIT

## WE KNEW THE FACTORY WOULD BE A WINNER THE MOMENT WE HEARD THEIR PLANS.

It seems an obvious solution. Take an old, derelict factory and turn it into a sports and leisure centre that everyone can benefit from. But without the vision and drive of the Port Glasgow Association of Tenants Groups it simply would not have happened. Strathclyde Regional Council are pleased to have helped the birth of the factory by supporting it through our Urban Aid Programme and also with the assistance of our Architectural and Related Services Department. And we were delighted to hear that the Tenants Group had been selected as the 'Most Outstanding Example of Community Enterprise in 1990'.



STRATHCLYDE HOUSE, 20 INDIA STREET, GLASGOW G2 4PF

## Backing for the scheme

Patron: The Prince of Wales, Chairman: Lord Scarman, Vice-chairman: John Thompson, of Hunt Thompson Associates, London.

Management committee: Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent, The Times (secretary); Robert Davies, deputy chief executive, Business in the Community; Dr Rod Hackney, principal, Rod Hackney Architects.

Administration: Robin Dean.

Assessors: Joan Kean, director, Newcastle Architecture Workshop; Madanlal Khareghat, Kristina Temple Project, Coventry; David Waites, architect, West Midlands; Robert Hanna, Care Project advisory officer, Barnsley; Marian Wright, Possil Housing Co-operative, Glasgow; Sir Andrew Derbyshire, architect, London; Freda Harris, community leader, Margate; Sue Simms, Ditton Fields Community Association, Cambridge; Dee Stamp, landscape architect (Claws), London; Pat Tindale, Riba Community Architecture Group; Larry Hansen, Southwark Environment Trust, London; Colin Narborough, Economics Correspondent, The Times; Angela Monaghan, Business in the Community; Hilary Weedon, National Children's Play and Recreation Unit; Mike Wright, Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation, Telford; David Jones, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation; John Armstrong, Community Development Foundation East Midlands Development Centre, Leicester; Dennis King, Housing Associations Charitable Trust.

Mrs Jessica Douglas-Horne was an assessor for the Charles Douglas-Horne Award, with John Thompson and Charles Kneivitt.



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Tel: 071-375 1163  
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# The 1990 winners

A RECORD 16 entrants received awards throughout the nine categories, including three for community centres, and two each in the housing, environment and partnership categories. The overall winner was The Factory, Port Glasgow. Here are the category winners and those who received commendations and honourable mentions:

**The Housing Associations Charitable Trust Award for Housing**, sponsored by the Housing Associations Charitable Trust, for tackling the needs of housed or homeless people through self-help, self-build, tenant or resident action, or by community or neighbourhood groups.

**Groscoppe Workers Co-operative, Hull**, entered by Groscoppe Workers Co-operative. Seven young homeless and ill-housed people set up the co-op in 1986 to buy, renovate and let houses to the homeless, unemployed or lone parents. By saving, begging and borrowing, the first house was bought and renovated for £7,000. A loan from the co-op bank and personal mortgages has enabled the group to acquire and convert many more derelict properties, now used for accommodation and shared housing for former psychiatric patients. The co-op is now self-financing, with the bulk of its income from Housing Benefit. Next it plans to provide workshops for small businesses.

The assessors said: "With help, this scheme could be extended to involve other young people and perhaps other cities."

**Langridge Initiative Centre, Middlesbrough**, entered by Middlesbrough Borough Council. A highly successful, if all too rare example of a local authority helping to breathe new life into an area of multi-deprivation through active participation in the refurbishment of a run-down estate. A tenants' housing co-op joined the council in setting an agenda, which was enthusiastically endorsed by tenants. Sixty flats in six blocks have now been completed. Further work is planned on 12 houses and bungalows and an enterprise initiative centre.

The assessors said: "A very impressive group of people. Although it took years to agree on the design, the members still have the enthusiasm and drive they had on day one and are looking to expand the project."

**Commendations:** Prospect Place, London. Honorable mentions: Gillingham Housing Project for the Disabled, Kent; Ruston Road Housing Co-operative, Middlesbrough; Daisie's Housing Co-operative, Paisley; Castlehill East Housing Co-operative, Glasgow.

**The Times Environment Award**, sponsored by Shell UK, for general environmental improvements, particularly those involving a partnership between the public, private and voluntary sectors.

**Peak Dale Bowls Bowling Green, Burton**, entered by Peak Dale Bowling Club. Almost the entire village has been involved in providing this green: when work started only two could play bowls — now it has 88 members, and local school children are learning. Those unable to help build the club house or take part in landscaping have assisted by fundraising. ICI and RMC donated 2,500 tons of stone for levelling, hardscape and machinery were provided free of charge by local people and old materials were recycled. The assessors said: "The value of the green to the community is immense in terms of sense of achievement, self-esteem and containing interest and pleasure."

**West Everton Community Council Planning Project**, entered by West Everton Community Council. Local residents have been given a voice in the development and improvement of their area in partnership with the local council and other agencies, and the proposals include housing, health, play and other community and recreational facilities. A youth facility has been retained, a new children's play area has been started, the saving of a local health clinic and the launching of a three-year project of health promotion are among its tangible achievements.

The assessors said: "A large number of people tackling a complex variety of local projects in a co-operative and enthusiastic way and against tremendous odds."

**Commendation:** Triangle Community Garden, Manchester. Honorable mention: Holy Trinity Urban Farm Project, Birmingham.

**The Gubben Award for Workplaces**, sponsored by the Gubben Foundation, for managed and small business workshops, community offices, shops and factories, built or improved through community initiative.

**The Principal Street Workshops and The Spelman Street Project, east London** (two awards). Workshops and retail units are being provided in renovated mixed-use buildings. They are run by the Spelman Street Small Business Association, created in 1980 by a group of mainly Bangladeshi local people. Eight workshops and three retail units have been provided at 31-37 Principal Street, while at Spelman Street (nos 16, 18 and 20) there will be four workshops, a corner shop and store. Two local businesses, Crown Gate Builders and the Crown and Leek Joinery, have been involved in the work.

The assessors said: "These inter-related developments show a high degree of community initiative and sustained involvement in a multi-ethnic, multi-faith area."

**Commendations:** St Paul's Enterprise Centre, Birmingham. Honorable mentions: Queens Cross Workshop, Glasgow; Yorkshire Dance Centre, Leeds.

**The Gubben Award for Community Centres**, sponsored by the Gubben Foundation, for any type of new or refurbished community facilities.

**Bannagh Community Project, Bannagh Co Fermanagh**, entered by Bannagh Community Association. The educational and recreational needs of this mixed community, two miles from the Irish border, are being met by a hall, saved from demolition and refurbished with associated facilities. The association formed a partnership with Enterprise Ulster, which provided labour under a skilled foreman. Re-opened in April, it now provides much-needed space for play groups, youth clubs, group meetings and a health centre.

The assessors said: "An exceptionally high quality of workmanship throughout. A very modest project inspired by the highest ideals and extraordinarily successful."

**Riddings Park Community Centre Project, Derbyshire**, entered by Riddings Community Centre Association. The result of 12 years of community participation, fundraising and building, the centre provides the only suitable facility for villagers to meet. A local architect was appointed to design a building suitable for the conservation area, and the local people built virtually all of it themselves, including a spectacular woodblock floor. The next stage will be the provision of landscaping, a car park and roads.



Southville Community Development Association, Bristol



The Middlesbrough council Langridge Initiative Centre



The Groscoppe Workers Co-operative, Hull, Humberside



Caring For Our Environment Project: The children of Shute Village Primary School

The assessors said: "The hall is fully accessible to all and used for a wide range of activities involving all age groups. This group showed us what community involvement is all about."

**Launceston Village Hall, near Looe, Cornwall**, entered by Launceston Village Hall Management Committee. The new hall replaced the existing one in this small isolated community and serves as a recreation, sports and meeting place. The hall is used by the local school for drama and games and also has a small surgery.

The assessors said: "A very imaginative scheme in which the architect has worked very closely with the association during the planning and design stage, holding public meetings and carrying out small group design seminars."

**Commendations:** Stapleford Village Hall, Stapleford, Essex; South Action Centre — The Fossil Villagers' Centre and associated development, Cuffinham, Westbrooke Village Hall, Leek, Staffordshire.

**Honorable mentions:** New Easton Community Centre, Bristol; Broughton and Brompton Community Centre, Wharmcliffe Side Village Hall, Sheffield; The Crosslet Centre, Dumbarton.

**The Community Development Foundation Award for Partnership**, sponsored by Barclays Bank, for any type of partnership which has brought benefits to a local community through a built environment project.

**Angell Town Community Project, Bristol**, entered by Angell Town Community Project. Housing, community centre, a playground and a self-financing enterprise centre are all part of this complex and wide-ranging project to improve the quality of life on the estate. First, a youth club, nursery and senior citizens centre were opened in disused garages. The Little Angels playground followed. Now

work has started to provide studio workshops at commercial rents and a pilot project to upgrade 47 houses is in hand. Oxford Polytechnic Urban Regeneration Consultancy and Curriel Foley Architects have been involved in the consultation process.

The assessors said: "A successful partnership which is delivering a wide-ranging, incremental programme."

**The Southville Centre, Bristol**, entered by Southville Community Development Association. A much-needed community centre and low-cost housing for rent are being provided through an imaginative form of funding and partnership between local voluntary groups, Bristol City Council and a housing association. A listed school building will provide the centre, and on adjoining land there will be 32 flats for the elderly.

The assessors said: "A very imaginative scheme in which the architect has worked very closely with the association during the planning and design stage, holding public meetings and carrying out small group design seminars."

**Commendations:** The Montague Centre Broadway, Belfast. Honorable mentions: Harriet and Greta Family Support Unit, Kildermister, Finsbury Park Community, north London.

**The National Children's Play Award**, sponsored by the National Children's Play and Recreation Unit, for community-initiated play projects, particularly those involving children at the planning stage.

**Caring For Our Environment Project, Axminster, Devon**, entered by the Children of Shute Village Primary School. A nature conservation area, play area and a wider range of environmental projects in Shute village have been provided by the 30 primary school children. They successfully lobbied against the sale of the former head-



The West Everton Community Council's Community Council Planning Project

teacher's house and garden and turned it into a conservation area, raising £1,500. They then raised £4,500 for a play area they designed themselves, and now have plans to turn the former house into a community centre.

The assessors said: "Their enthusiasm has brought about the transformation of the surrounding grounds, it has changed the villagers' perception of the children and of the school."

**Commendations:** Wirral Resource Centre and Toy Library, Wirral, Cheshire; Drayton Park Primary School, north London. Honorable mentions: Clurt Playground Appeal, Surrey; Binley Woods First School, Coventry.

**The Community Architecture Award**, sponsored by the Colquhoun Foundation, for any type of building project, new build or refurbishment, in which the design process has involved local community or user groups.

**The London Lighthouse, North Kensington**, entered by the London Lighthouse. Britain's first residential and support centre for the growing number of people living with HIV and Aids is based in a converted school building. Initial hostility from local residents was overcome and it now has a high level of local support. As many as 600 people now use the centre each week. It has a happy, domestic feel to it and this is due in large part to the process of consultation employed by architect Robert Sparrow.

The assessors described it as "uplifting". "The remarkable achievement is due to the nature of the community of Aids workers, to the consummate skill of the architects and to the power of the community-architecture process at its best."

**Commendations:** St Augustine's Church Centre, Bradford; Lambeth Community Care Centre, south London.

**The Community Enterprise Award for Training**, sponsored by Marks & Spencer, awarded to community organisations undertaking built environment regeneration projects, which as a result assist local people to obtain skill and employment opportunities.

**Commendations:** The Crown and Leek Building Resource and Training Centre, London.



The Community Enterprise Award for New Business

**New Routes to Jobs, Training and Enterprise, Glasgow**, entered by Glasgow Community Learning Group. A "one door" integrated service which helps to regenerate the local economy by reducing unemployment, encouraging new enterprises and supporting existing employers, it was established with more than £1 million from Strathclyde regional council, the Industry Department for Scotland, and Aids. A skills audit highlighted existing yet untapped talents, which could be better used, and a careers and training centre was set up in a disused shop in Clydeview shopping centre. Close links have been forged with employers to identify needs, careers guidance and counselling, crèche facilities and support for the mentally and physically handicapped.

The assessors said: "An innovative and well-administered scheme with an impressive team of unemployed women as the driving force."

**Commendations:** The Crown and Leek Building Resource and Training Centre, London.

**Honorable mention:** Dalmack Springfield Community, Glasgow.

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# Return of the Titians

If there is one attraction in Venice this year which will inspire a pilgrimage, it is the tribute to Titian. John Russell Taylor reports on the variety of the city's art exhibitions

In the minds of most visitors Venice is primarily the city of art, which is one reason why the lately aborted notion of making it the scene of the next world fair jamboree, Expo 2000, aroused a storm of protest. Just for the art and the history, it seems in season to be loaded with as many international visitors as it can reasonably bear without sinking beneath the algae-infested waters of the lagoon.

This year there are two big draws: the Biennale and the definitive tribute to one of Venice's own, Titian. The Biennale, cosmopolitan as on principle it is, gathers the best of contemporary art, or someone's choice of what is best, into the numerous national pavilions of the Giardini di Castello, and regularly marks off Venice's history into two-year periods, although after it closes on September 30 there will not be another for three years, to make the next fall on the actual centenary of the institution's founding in 1893 (they managed to get slightly out of sync over the two world wars).

There are several other splendid shows on in Venice through the summer to uphold the city's reputation as a host for art as well as an originator of its own. "Mondrian and De Stijl: the modern ideal", at the Fondazione Giorgio Cini until September 2, and "Russia 1900-1930: the art of stage design", at the Ca' Pesaro Museum of Modern Art until September 9, have little directly to do with Venice, its status as Diaghilev's last resting-place apart. But both are evidently shows of world class, not gigantic enough to enter the everything-you-always-wanted-to-know category, but crowded with enough masterpieces to make a special trip worthwhile for anyone specially interested, and a tempting introduction to many more who just happen to be in Venice at the time.

If there is one show, however, which is going to inspire special pilgrimages, much as Van Gogh is

doing to Amsterdam, it will be the tribute "Titian in Venice" at the Palazzo Ducale until October 7. There is something special and imagination-catching about the idea of seeing Titian in his home town, surrounded by continuing evidences of the world he lived in and the contribution he made to it.

The show makes the business easier by gathering together in the Doge's Palace most of the major works which normally you would have to trek round half-a-dozen Venetian churches and a couple of museums to see. Only the size of the two key works in the Frari church has defeated the organizers, so you still need to go there too to see the *Assumption* and the Pesaro *Madonna*—and be ambiguously rewarded with Titian's grave, a vastly hideous 19th-century monument raised above it, and, just opposite, the tomb that Canova designed for him, and that was eventually turned by pupils into a monument for Canova himself.

The main experience, however, is to be gained in the exhibition itself. There is, for example, an unrivalled succession of Titian's extraordinary portraits, including a variety of popes, cardinals and dogs, many of whom one would not feel too comfortable turning one's back on even for a moment, as well as the penetrating picture of Isabella d'Este, the touching study of a young Rinaldo Farnese, and the extraordinary late self-portrait, in which Titian looks more prophet than painter.

Fascinating too, reassembled, perfectly lit and at a seeable distance, is the extraordinary group of ceiling paintings done for the church of Santo Spirito in Isola, with their almost baroque depictions of blood-thirsty moments from the Old Testament, the protagonists tumbling through space. And the two paintings of the *Annunciation* offer a vivid contrast, the earlier, from the Scuola Grande di San Rocco, a simple encounter of woman and angel, the later, from the church of



Mary Magdalene Penitent: "There is something special and imagination-catching about seeing Titian's work in his home town"

San Salvatore, with apparently half of heaven in operatic attendance. Since Titian lived so long (until his eighties at least, though the registration of his death claims he was 103) and was so prolific, any selection, however comprehensive, is bound to have its gaps. During his lifetime, Titian was one of Venice's major exports and, although he lived in Venice

for most of his life, a large proportion of his work was designed for other cities, other rulers. There is also a relatively small number of his mythological and classical compositions. Even with the gap filled to some extent by early copies after works such as the London National Gallery's *Bacchus and Ariadne*, we are perhaps given a disproportionately holy

view of Titian's activities. But there are hints, and more than hints, of other things. The astonishing *Venus, the Organist* and the *Little Dog* from the Prado, even the title of which sounds like an invitation to lubricious imaginings, seems in its mixture of nudity, contemporary costume and the unambiguous direction of the distracted organist's gaze, to

do more than Manet ever did to excite puritanical outrage by similar means. And the wonderful last room, with its grand and awful works of Titian's old age, such as *The Flaying of Marsyas*, the mysterious *Boy with Dogs* and the last, unfinished *Pieta*, is evidence of the old artist's continuing ability to take the world by surprise.

## The Briton who guides La Fenice

John Higgins reports on the man who runs one of Italy's famous opera houses

ITALIANS have been highly successful directors of opera houses outside their own country, but foreign administrators, particularly British ones, of leading Italian lyric theatres are a rarity. La Fenice in Venice is the charge of John Fisher, and he thinks he is the only non-Italian to have held the post. It is possible that he is the only Briton this century to have run a major Italian opera house.

Mr Fisher's musical education was in Glasgow, but his career has been almost entirely in Italy and Germany. He spent a time at La Scala as assistant artistic director when Claudio Abbado was there, and previously had been in a similar position at the Fenice. In the Italian operatic world politics and diplomacy march hand in hand, and it was clearly Mr Fisher's grounding in both that helped him become general administrator and artistic director at the Fenice, where he arrived last January. He has one of Europe's most beautiful theatres, with its blue, cream and gold auditorium, in his care. He also has a bicentenary to prepare. The Fenice opened on May 16, 1792, with an opera by Paisiello. The name for English-speaking foreigners might sound a little like that of Venice itself, but that is pure coincidence. It is simply the Italian for phoenix, so called because it arose from the ashes of another opera house which had burnt down in another part of the city.

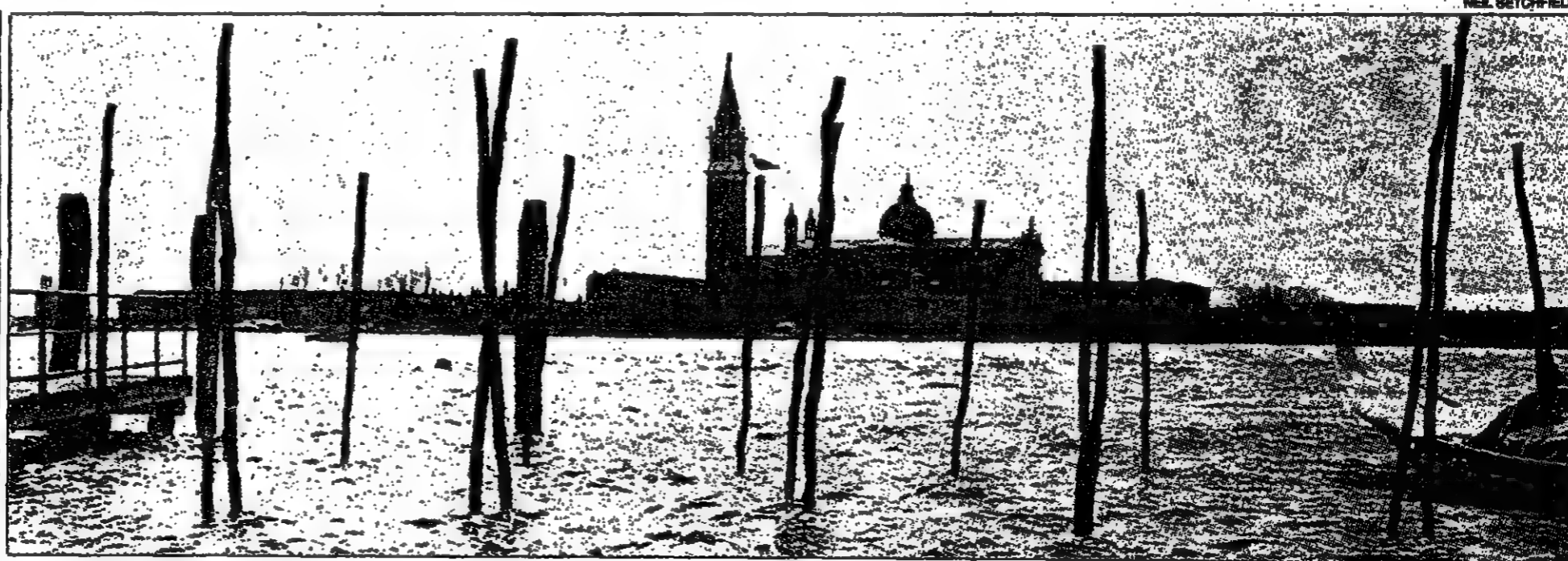
In the first half of the last century, the Fenice challenged houses such as the San Carlo in Naples and La Scala itself to secure the services of the leading composers of the day. It was for the Fenice that Rossini wrote his first major serious opera, *Tancredi*, and also his last in Italian, *Semiramide*, before he went off to Paris and soon took early retirement from the operatic stage. Bellini followed with *Beatrice di Tenda* and *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*

(based on *Romeo and Juliet*). In the mid-1830s, the theatre had to live up to its name and rise in new form from its own ashes when it burned down. Donizetti was the leading opera composer at the time and wrote works for it both before and after the fire.

The man most closely associated with the Fenice is the most famous Italian composer of them all, Giuseppe Verdi. During the 1840s and 1850s the Fenice commissioned five operas from Verdi, including two, *Rigoletto* and *La Traviata*, which are an indispensable part of the repertory of every lyric theatre in the world. The Verdi association began with *Ernani* in 1844 and ended with *Simon Boccanegra* in 1857, although he was to revise the latter work for La Scala about 20 years later. The Fenice's greatest

regret may have been that it did not stage the world premiere of the most famous Venetian opera of all, Ponchielli's *La Gioconda*, full of dark and violent doings around the lagoon. That privilege went to La Scala. The second great flowering of the Fenice took place in the post-war years, sparked by the presence of the Venice Biennale. The Fenice turned to the greatest composers of the time, as it had done a century before, and asked them to write for the theatre. From Stravinsky came *The Rake's Progress*, from Benjamin Britten *The Turn of the Screw*, but not *Death in Venice* which was reserved for Aldeburgh.

Mr Fisher will be looking to all these operas which started life at the Fenice when he announces his new productions for the bi-centenary season. It would be very surprising if *Rigoletto* and *La Traviata* were not there. *Semiramide* and *The Rake's Progress* are sound bets. And over it all will probably be the shadow of Maria Callas. It was at the Fenice that the young Callas had some of her earliest Italian successes.



San Giorgio Maggiore, with the church in the background, is the start of the annual, exhilarating, 32 kilometre rowing race around the islands which takes place in the spring

## Tides in the affairs of men

Venice has retained its magic, despite being under threat, says Frances Clarke

We live in the Fondamenta Bonini. It is a wide, south-facing quay along the Rio degli Ognissanti, a canal beginning at the *scuola* or gondola-yard of San Trovaso and leading to the other famous yard of Tramontin, past the conveniently placed Giustinian hospital.

It is a peaceful backwater, except when the water ambulances churn through with an emergency, setting the red and blue boats moored for hire along the canal bouncing in the wash. Besides visitors to the hospital, pedestrian traffic is usually bound for the Zattere where there are two consulates, several shipping agencies, one of the best supermarkets in Venice and the passenger port at San Basilio.

In the other direction, beyond the Ponte Longo, there are two or three excellent ice-cream bars, particularly crowded on a sunny weekend when Venetians love to stroll or sit watching the activity on the wide, choppy Giudecca canal. Behind the Bonini is a hidden area of green where the long gardens of its houses meet those of Palazzo Bembo, a department of the university: a haven for small birds, dominated by the bell-tower of San Trovaso, whose first chiming clang simultaneously with the deep-throated *marangon*, the deepest bell of San Marco. The fondamenta is low-lying and subject to flooding when persistent rain, low pressure and a sirocco combine with the tide to inundate parts of the city.

During the early 1970s the cycle of flooding that followed the exceptional high tide of November 1966 frequently brought the canal into the ground floor of Ca' Bonini, our house. One quickly got used to the drill of leaping out of bed at the first wail of the sirens to pull doormats out of reach of the water, followed by the ritual of sluicing down the *androne*, the entrance hall, when the tide receded.

It was the flood of 1966 which brought us to Venice so we could follow projects financed by the Venice in Peril Fund. We could evaluate priorities in collaboration with the Superintendents of Monuments and Fine Arts, maintain momentum and, hopefully, disentangle the web of problems created between authorities of one kind or another.

The recommendations of two Venetian friends then at the head of those offices, Renato Padoan and Francesco Vakanofer, led to the restoration of the churches of the Madonna dell'Orto in Cannaregio and San Nicolò dei Mendicanti at the extreme western tip of Dorsoduro, areas of the city then rarely sought out.

The parishioners and priests of those churches and their successors remain close friends and, while the fund has subsequently been able to work on many prestigious projects in other parts of the city, the special commitment to them remains, for their

needs are continuous. The day begins with the early delivery of the local newspaper, *Il Gazzettino* or *La Nuova Venezia*: their coverage of national or international news is less important than the results of their investigations into Venetian problems whose complexity requires long memories and independent judgment.

The timetable of each profession or trade determines the order of telephoning in the hope of finding the person, actually in and not engaged on another line.

At 1pm the schools release their students, and there is bedlam at the Accademia boat-stop where crowds of vociferous youngsters from the Liceo Marco Polo press on board with their knapsacks. The patience and courtesy of the *marinai* (conductors) is phenomenal, especially with the elderly and pram or wheel-chair-pushers.

By then the British papers should have arrived at the kiosk, manned by the Silvestri family for decades, and the long queue to get into the Accademia galleries, where numbers are now limited, will have dispersed. It is just time to catch the local grocer, Armandino, before he closes (mercifully never on time) to buy olives and cheese.

During the early afternoon there is a sort of truce: food shops only open again at five, disconcerting for foreigners used to day-long opening hours, but with the compensation of late closing. From autumn until early summer there is a variety of lectures, debates or cultural visits organised by the many cultural associations, frequently held in one of the beautiful rooms of the Ateneo Veneto in the Scuola San Fantin.

Listening to the annual series on the history of the Venetian Republic demonstrates how seriously Venetians take their heritage, the achievements of their heroes and the contemporary problems of a city which has never quite reconciled itself to rule from Rome.

Although few of the 40 or so theatres which once flourished in Venice survive, the Fenice, now the most beautiful and prestigious, will celebrate its 200th anniversary in 1992. Opera still draws the biggest and most critical local audience, ready to boo any performer judged inadequate.

Venetians cherish their traditional *feste*. They celebrate the founding of the city, its saint's day, San Marco, coinciding with the Liberation in 1945 on April 25, Ascension Day, the Feast of the Redentore with its bridge of boats across the Giudecca Canal, the anniversary of the Battle of Lepanto in October, the Madonna della Salute in November.

Of the secular entertainments, the revived and overblown carnival brings welcome trade to the hotels and restaurants in the leaner months of February and March. However, in the spring the rowing season opens, the gondoliers get into serious training and the *Vogalonga* in May brings together the local and international rowing fraternity in an exhilarating 32-kilometre course around the islands from San Giorgio Maggiore back to the Customs House at the Dogana Point.

By the first Sunday in September, the competitive *Regata Storica* brings the official rowing season to a triumphant close with the evocative procession of historic barges. Canaletto lives! *Eviva Venezia!*

● Lady Clarke is vice-chairman of the Venice in Peril Fund



Market stalls near the Rialto bridge add colour to Venetian life

The "Osser" THE The Vene

# THOSE WHO LISTEN TO THE VOICE OF THE SEA WILL HEAR THE VOICE OF TRUTH.

مكنا من الأصم

**F**rom now on, learning the truth about the environmental situation in the Upper Adriatic will be much easier. The Italian regions Veneto and Friuli-Venezia Giulia and the Yugoslav Republics of Slovenia and Croatia have just started up a joint research and information project concerning water quality and bathing conditions in the Upper Adriatic. Thus, it will be possible to study the phenomena taking place in this sea and provide direct objective information to the international community.

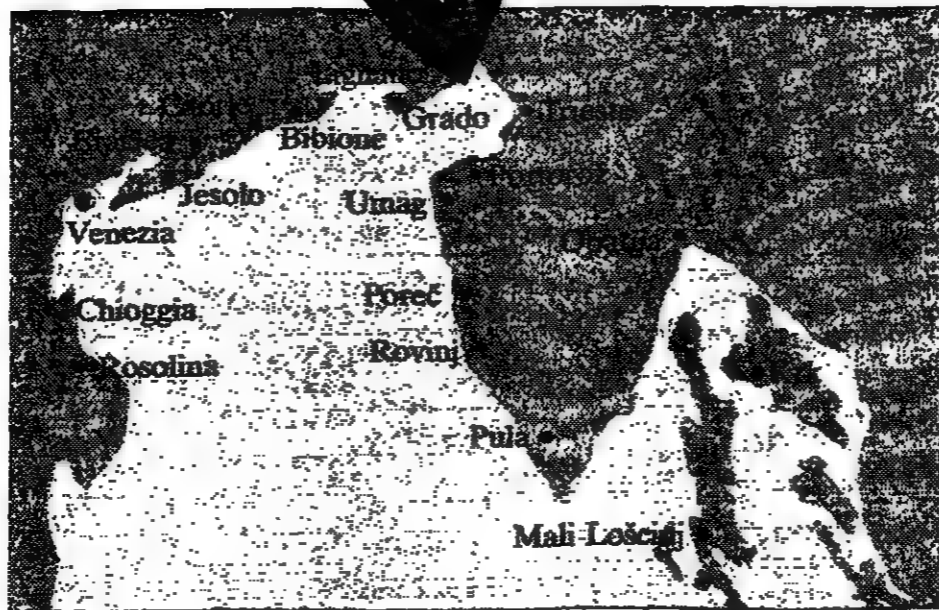
**The research project.**

Data on the environmental situation are gathered by the "Osservatorio dell'Alto Adriatico", a scientific body set up by the four coastal regions as a working group of the Comunità Alpe Adria, with the participation of the Austrian Land of Stiria. Four oceanographic boats are carrying out this year 6 cruises to study the situation in approximately 60 stations, in order to ascertain water quality and bathing conditions, both in coastal waters and offshore. The physical and chemical parameters of the water column (temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, transparency, pH) are measured by 40 stations. In the remaining stations, data are collected concerning nutrients, fauna and flora and surveys and observations are carried out directly underwater. The first four cruises this year have shown that the situation is completely normal, whereas the fifth, that was completed at the end of June, has pointed out the appear-

ance of a certain number of jelly aggregates which, however, do not affect the coastal areas.

## The information project.

In order to disseminate the information gathered and confute partial, distorted or incomplete data, the "Osservatorio dell'Alto Adriatico", in collaboration with Palomar, a joint Italian-Yugoslav limited company concerned with environmental protection and restoration of the Adriatic system, will make public its bulletins avoiding any mediation or interpretation. So, if you want to know the situation of the Upper Adriatic, you may read the bulletins issued by the Observatory, which is the official voice of the Upper Adriatic, in this same paper in July and August.



The "Osservatorio dell'Alto Adriatico" will inform the international community on the situation of the sea, making public all data gathered by its scientists.

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The Times sets the scene for the 119th Open Championship

# Olazábal's hole-by-hole guide to St Andrews

By MITCHELL PLATT, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

JOSE-Maria Olazábal first played the Old Course at St Andrews as an amateur in the 1984 Open Championship. He would have survived the halfway cut if it had not been for the 17th hole in the second round. He was over the green, chipped, and marked a seven on his card.

"I had expected a better course," Olazábal said. "I had heard so much: St Andrews is this and St Andrews is that. When I first arrived it was a disappointment. Since then I've played here in three Dunhill Cups and I like it more and more. I think it is very special because of the surroundings and because of what it means. I love the town and the history."

"I had not before 1984 seen the golf course, not even in a photograph. So my first picture of it is of television when he was punching the air. It would be nice to be the one on the 18th green this time."

"One thing I can never get over is the size of those greens. The problem comes when you try to put the ball close to the flag because the cups are going to be out near the traps or near the edge of the greens. So sometimes it is best to be conservative, not take too many risks but give yourself birdie chances."

## Hole One (The Burn)

Par 4, 370 yards  
You have to aim a little left on a line with the bridge with a three-wood or a one-iron depending on how the breeze is. I take no risks trying to put the ball close to the flag because the cups are going to be out near the traps or near the edge of the greens. So sometimes it is best to be conservative, not take too many risks but give yourself birdie chances.

## Hole Two (The Dyke)

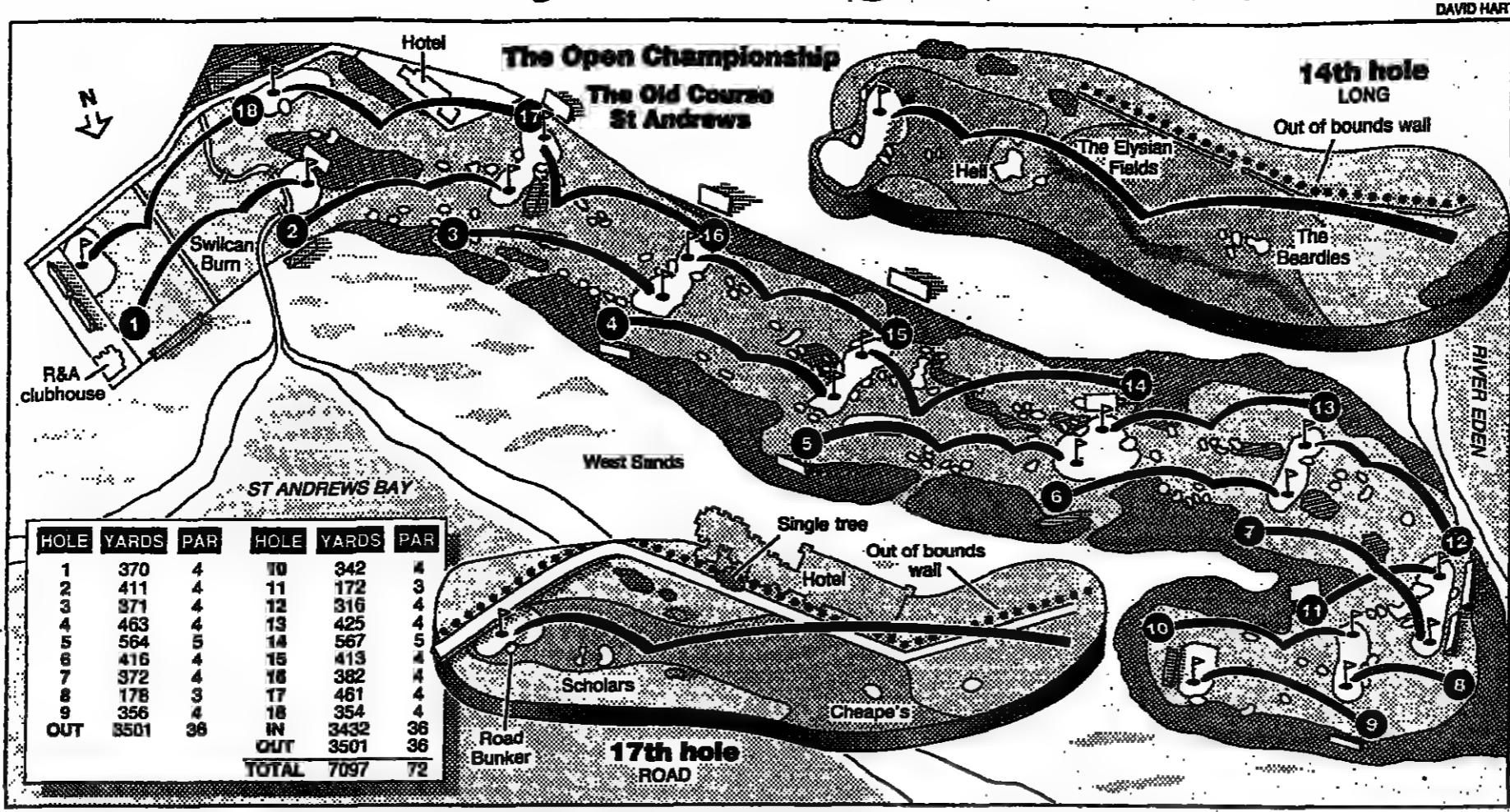
Par 4, 411 yards  
I try to hit the tee shot just short of the trap of the left. It can be a three-wood or a one-iron again. From there it is a six or seven-iron. I try to be a bit past the flag. It is a much better putt back up the hill. One of the days the flag will be out on the left and I will play right of it. Once I was in the trap on the left and there is no shot from there. I play safe.

## Hole Three (Cartgate, Out)

Par 4, 371 yards  
It depends on the wind, as it always does at St Andrews, but it will be a three-wood or a driver to have a full sand-iron into the green so that I can stop the ball pretty quick. It is not very difficult. You just have to aim off the tee a little left. A full sand-iron for me is 90 to 100 yards.

## Hole Four (Ginger Beer)

Par 4, 463 yards  
I play on to the 15th fairway and from there I try always to play for the middle of the green. It is a difficult shot to judge. The main thing for me here is to make a four.



## Hole Five (Hole o' Cross, Out)

Par 5, 564 yards  
I again aim left with the driver to give myself a good chance of putting the ball on the green in two. If the breeze is just a little into us and I don't think I can carry those two large hollows short of the green then I just play a four or five-iron short of the traps. The third shot will then be a nine-iron. It is a big green so I go for the flag.

## Hole Six (Heathery, Out)

Par 4, 416 yards  
I hit the driver off the tee straight down the centre. I have to avoid the traps especially on the right. There are two traps on the right but I think it's more difficult to get in one of those than the ones on the left. From there it is not a very tough shot with a seven or an eight-iron on to another big green. The only problem there is if the flag is very close to the hump. In that case I just make sure that I'm not going to leave the ball short.

## Hole Seven (High, Out)

Par 4, 372 yards  
Usually I hit a three-wood off the tee to have a sand-iron second shot. Again it is a big green but there is a little hump at the front of it which is a carry in another 16 yards. So if the flag is near to the hump, I'm going to be past the flag. I'm not taking any risks in that position. I know that with a sand-iron in your hand

you are trying to put it close but I still make sure that I pitch the ball at least pin high.

## Hole Eight (Short)

Par 3, 178 yards  
It is not a very long par three and it is usually played with the wind left to right. The green is very big and all you have to do there is hit the tee shot straight at the flag.

## Hole Nine (The End)

Par 4, 356 yards  
There are a couple of traps in the middle of the fairway and I always play short of them with a three-wood or one-iron. If the wind is helping then there is a slight chance of going for the green with a driver. I don't because from short of the traps you only have an eight or nine-iron to the green. The breeze into you. Again it is a very big green although it is flat.

## Hole Ten (Bobby Jones)

Par 4, 342 yards  
You have two chances. If it is downwind then you just take the driver and go for the green. If I see I cannot do that then I just play two-iron off the tee and then sand-iron on to the green. There are a couple of traps on the green so you must judge from where the flag is placed where to land the ball because the key is to give yourself the easiest putt. You must think about that all the time at St Andrews.

## Hole 11 (High, Home)

Par 3, 172 yards  
Here you know the flag is going to

be always very close to THAT trap called Strath immediately at the front of the green. I try always to make sure that I am going to be past that trap. But like the hole and I always try to hit it to the flag. I might be taking the risk of taking a club that will be hitting with danger. But sometimes you have to do that on this hole because if you are a long way past the flag then you have a downhill putt which is very difficult to judge the pace. If there is no wind it is a six-iron. It is a three-iron into the wind; an eight-iron with the wind. The hole is both a lion and a lamb.

## Hole 12 (Heathery, Home)

Par 4, 316 yards  
It is very similar to number ten. If it is downwind then I might have the chance to put the ball on the green so I go for the driver. If not then it is a two-iron off the tee, putting the ball between the traps, and then it can be like a nine-iron up to a very tricky green. It is pretty wide but there are humps at back and front so it is a very narrow place where the flag is going to be and you must select the right club. It is better to be a bit past the flag because it is difficult to judge the pace of the ball over the first hump if putting from the front.

## Hole 13 (Hole o' Cross, Home)

Par 4, 425 yards  
I play way left on to the sixth fairway with a driver but from that position

you can see the whole green, the flag, the bottom of the flag and I think that is very important on this hole. From there it depends on the weather although it is not a very tough shot unless the hole is cut on the right. It can be anything from a seven-iron to a three-iron.

## Hole 14 (Long)

Par 5, 587 yards  
They have put a grandstand on the right hand side of the 13th green so now there is only one way to play the hole which is straight to the fairway. All the time it is a driver with usually the wind left to right into you so I play the second shot onto the fifth fairway with a three-wood or maybe three-wood if the wind is strong. From there it is something like a seven-iron. If the wind is helping then you can go for the green with a three-wood second shot.

## Hole 15 (Cartgate, Home)

Par 4, 413 yards  
I always hit the driver off the tee. It is a pretty big green but with a few hills on it so you have to make sure the ball is pretty close to the flag. I always go for the flag with the second shot because if you are a distance from the cup then you will have a very tricky putt. I have to go for my best shot there although if the flag is at the back, and the wind is blowing against, then it can be a three-iron. Then again it can be as little as a nine-iron.

## Hole 16 (Corner of the Dyke)

Par 4, 362 yards  
I always play left of the traps on the fairway. It can be a one-iron; it can be a driver. If there is wind it is usually off the left and I will be hitting between a five and seven-iron for my approach. When the flag is cut on the left that is the toughest position because there is a trap short of the green and a trap past the green.

## Hole 17 (The Road)

Par 4, 461 yards  
I think it is a very tough hole not helped by where it comes in the round. I usually try to aim a little left and fade the ball a little bit. I don't care where I am on the fairway as long as I have a flat lie for the second shot. The key to the second shot is where the flag is placed. If it is right of the Road Bunker then I am going to play safe and short right of the green. Two putts from there and that is it.

## Hole 18 (Tom Morris)

Par 4, 384 yards  
I always hit a driver and it is going to be a wedge or maybe a nine-iron if the wind is very strong for the second shot. All you have to do is avoid the Valley of Sir because if you are down there it is going to be very, very difficult. You always try to pitch the ball pin high. It should stop on the second bounce.

## The two key holes

### The 14th

TONY Jacklin and Gene Sarazen are among the many to have met their Waterloo here. Jacklin, out in 29 in 1970, had his defence interrupted by weather and a bush which cost him a six. Sarazen, in 1933, was buried by the sands of Hell Bunker. He took eight and lost by a shot. Close to Hell is Kitchen, a smaller though no more heavenly bunker, and the key here is to find sanctuary on a fairway known as The Elysian Fields. A pushed drive will go over the stone wall out of bounds; a pulled one will more than likely be caught by The Beardies, a group of bunkers where the grass is allowed to grow longer around the edge. The hole can be overpowered in a following wind but it will dictate to the player if the wind is only slightly against. It is a classic par five not only because of the bunkers, but because of the out of bounds, but because of the alternative examinations it can set. The steep rise to the green can provide a final test which so many fail.

### The 17th

TOM Watson has said it could have been designed by Hitchcock. If he is referring to drama there is no argument. Tommy Nakajima gave the Road Bunker, which in the words of Darwin "eats its way into the very vitals of the green" an alternative name: The Sands of Nakajima. The reason? He was on the green in two, putted into the Road Bunker, took four to get out and put a nine on his card. Watson stresses that it is just too tough yet in the same breath he cannot wait to stand on the tee. "It has a kind of magic," Watson says. Yet Peter Thomson, who won the first of his five Opens at St Andrews, said: "It's a modern-day architect designed such a hole he would be sued for incompetence." Yet if it could be bought every American would want to ship it home. All that is, except Arnold Palmer, as he took 5-7 there in the first three rounds in 1978. Darwin called it the "implacable enemy." Others have uttered stronger words and required stronger medicine in "The Tiger" inn.

MITCHELL PLATT

## Law Report July 19 1990 Queen's Bench Divisional Court

# Council acted vindictively or in bad faith in removing advertising from TES

### Regina v Derbyshire County Council, Ex parte The Times Supplements Ltd and Others

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Tudor Evans [Judgment July 18]

Derbyshire County Council was activated by bad faith or vindictiveness in deciding to move its advertising from *The Times Educational Supplement* (TES) to *The Guardian*.

The council had been unable to give any educational reason for its decision to impose a general ban on papers owned by Mr Rupert Murdoch following an alleged libel of its leader by the *Times*.

The council had deliberately sought to mislead the court as to the true reasons for the decision made by its education committee and by the full council. The decision was a bad example of local authority maladministration which was potentially if not actually harmful to the interests of education in Derbyshire.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court held in granting the applicants, *The Times Supplements Ltd*, *News International plc*, *Times Newspapers Ltd* and *Pauline Elizabeth Latham*, a Conservative county councillor, an order of certiorari to quash the council's decision to change its practice of advertising educational appointments nationally in the TES, and not to place advertising in publications owned by the applicants or Mr Murdoch.

In addition, the court also granted the applicants a declaration that the decisions were made unlawfully and ultra vires and an injunction to restrain the council from implementing those decisions. The court also ordered taxation of costs on an indemnity basis.

Section 38 of the Education (No 2) Act 1986 provides that: "(1) The articles of government for every county, controlled, special agreement and maintained school shall provide for it to be the duty of the local education authority, where there is a vacancy in any post which is part of the complement of the school... (b) to advertise the vacancy, and fill it in accordance with the procedure laid down by virtue of subsection (3) below."

"(3) The articles of government for every such school shall provide (a) for it to be the duty of the authority, where they decide to advertise the vacancy, to do so in a manner likely in their opinion to bring it to the notice of persons (including employees of theirs) who are qualified to fill the post."

Mr Anthony Lester, QC and Mr David Pannick, the applicants, Mr Alan Newman, QC and Mr Antony White for the council.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said the Labour Party had a substantial majority on the county council. Councillor Bookbinder, the council leader, was a very powerful and influential local politician. He had chosen not to give

evidence. But his chief executive, Mr Raine, had provided an affidavit, as had the council's head of research and intelligence, Mr Elton, and their senior head of legal services, Mr Millon. A number of Labour councillors had provided affidavits.

Mr Raine, together with Councillors Stafford, Dinah Dorell, the Labour whip, Cannon and Bratt, had been cross-examined by Mr Lester.

The councillors had maintained that the decision to impose the ban was taken solely upon educational grounds.

Labour group rules provided that save where the matter had been left to a free vote (a rare event indeed) group members might not in committee or council meetings oppose the decision of that group.

Until October 11, 1989 the council had habitually advertised educational appointments in the TES. Two days before that, Councillor Bookbinder had served a writ on the *Times Newspapers Ltd*, *News International plc* and *Pauline Elizabeth Latham*, claiming damages for libel in two articles published by *The Sunday Times*.

One of those articles which appeared on September 17, 1989 was entitled "Revealed: Socialist tycoon deals with a Labour chief," and "Bizarre deals of council leader and the media tycoon." Another article in *The Sunday Times* on September 24, 1989 was entitled "Council share deals under scrutiny".

The articles, so it was said, understood in their natural and ordinary meaning, meant that Councillor Bookbinder had caused the council to engage in improper behaviour and legally doubtful transactions using the moneys of the superannuation fund.

That he did, it was asserted the articles implied, *inter alia*, that Councillor Bookbinder, namely a local businessman named Mr Oyston. He too had taken action against the same parties as had the county council itself.

The Labour group meeting on October 11, had endorsed the actions against the *Sunday Times* and decided to withdraw all advertising by the council in Murdoch newspapers.

Councillor Bookbinder had reported the decision in Mr Raine who had implemented the decision, though he was uneasy about the lack of a legal foundation for the ban. He and other officials sought council's advice from Mr Newman who advised that there appeared to him no educational group supporting the ban.

He advised that the officers should examine relevant factors and produce a report which could possibly demonstrate a sound educational ground for maintaining the ban.

On November 20, 1989 Councillor Stafford had been reported in the *Derby Evening Telegraph* as saying "The fact that the TES is no longer getting £100,000 from us has absolutely nothing to do with the libel action against *The Sunday Times*" and

further that "We have not decided to stop advertising in the supplement, we just haven't advertised there recently."

On December 13, 1989 a Conservative councillor had been informed that although 250 teaching posts had been advertised since October 18 none had been advertised in the TES.

On December 14, the Labour group decided to confirm and maintain the ban. The education committee had before it a report entitled "National advertising for educational appointments".

It decided to move national advertising to teaching vacancies from the TES to *The Guardian* for a year. In the course of the meeting, Councillor Stafford had said he was sorry that TES readers were getting jobs with the authority, which wanted red blood with radical views.

The applicants asserted that the education committee's decision was perverse and the report seriously misleading. There was no dispute that it was more expensive for the council to advertise in *The Guardian* rather than the TES. TES charges were £61.60 while *The Guardian's* charges were £72.50 a year.

It had been demonstrated that advertising in *The Guardian* reached a much smaller proportion of teachers than advertising in the TES, which was read by about 255,000 primary and secondary teachers while *The Guardian* was read by about 84,000. Much the same could be said in comparative terms about teachers in tertiary and further education.

The report focused on comparative circulation figures for the first half of 1986, when the TES was adversely affected by the Wapping dispute. Since that time the TES circulation had significantly increased while *The Guardian's* had declined.

The council's powers and duties specified in section 38 of the Education (No 2) Act 1986 must, Mr Lester had submitted, be exercised reasonably, in good faith and for a proper purpose taking no account of irrelevant considerations.

He had referred to *Wheeler v Leicester City Council* ([1985] 1 AC 1054) as providing an instance of the type of procedural impropriety involved in the present case.

But, Mr Lester had continued, even if it could be said that in addition to the improper purpose, a valid educational ground had been taken into account the decision would have been flawed because the improper purpose so substantially influenced the decision: see *R v Broadcasting Complaints Commission, Ex parte Owen* ([1985] QB 1153).

It had further been asserted that powers and duties had been exercised perversely in that no educational committee or council could properly have concluded that abandoning its policy of advertising in the TES

and switching national advertising to *The Guardian* would reach a higher number of qualified teachers looking for jobs and certainly not any higher number of suitably qualified teachers. The expense of advertising in *The Guardian*.

It was right to consider also the wider, or blanket ban imposed at the instigation of the Labour group which was to prohibit advertising of any kind by the county council in every other Murdoch publication. It was submitted that that was ultra vires the council's powers: see *R v Ealing LBC, Ex parte Times Newspapers Ltd* ([1986] QB 316).

His Lordship had not the slightest doubt that the Labour group on the county council was a formidable force and its decisions were generally put through the committees of the council with a rigorous application of the whip.

Mr Newman had submitted that on the evidence, there were powerful indications that a fairly large number of Labour councillors had voted with only their views on education influencing them.

The Labour Party rule book provided that group members were expected to abide by group decisions and not speak or vote in opposition in the council. If they did not, they could face withdrawal of the whip. Mr Newman had referred to *R v Waltham Forest LBC, Ex parte Baxter* ([1988] 1 QB 419, 428) where the council had exercised its powers, as stated by Lord Justice Russell.

"Party loyalty, party unanimity, party policy were all relevant considerations for the individual councillor. The vote becomes unlawful only when the councillor allows these considerations or any other outside influences to dominate as to exclude other considerations which are required for a balanced judgment."

"If by blindly toeing the party line, the councillor deprives himself of any real choice or the exercise of any real discretion, then his vote can be impugned and any resolution supported by his vote potentially flawed."

The system of whipping was used by all political parties, or most, both locally and nationally. But its use should not obscure the fact that the public expected their representatives in local and national government at least to consider in any given instance, whether the party line upon the issue in point was one which, according to judgment or conscience or both, they could support.

It was slavish, thoughtless adherence to the party line which was objectionable and which might well oblige the court to quash a local authority decision.

Mr Newman, relying on *R v East Berkshire Health Authority, Ex parte Walsh* ([1985] 1 QB 1521), had argued that the 1986 Act provided insufficient statutory underpinning for judicial review, in his Lordship's view that case did not assist Mr Newman.

As judicial review had developed over the last several decades it had become more and more clear that councillors had to act in good faith in taking decisions on behalf of the public and not allow those decisions to be founded on irrelevant or inappropriate considerations, especially if the object of doing so was to advance an improper purpose.

His Lordship failed to see how it could ever be said that a decision of a local authority taken in bad faith or otherwise for an improper purpose could have arisen from the exercise of a power for the public good.

As Mr Lester suggested, the removal of advertising from the TES to *The Guardian* only arose from a vendetta by the county council against Times Newspapers which Lordship would regard the court as under a positive duty to quash.

His Lordship had come to the firm conclusion that the party, a strong-minded lady, had been a vindictive and malicious person, and that the council had acted in bad faith in removing advertising from the TES.

It could not possibly be gainsaid that the Labour group on the council had decided to sever all links with Mr Murdoch's publications, gave instructions through Councillor Bookbinder to that end, secured an immediate order from Mr Raine imposing the ban and then set about trying to discover whether there was available the reality or semblance of a lawful excuse for that conduct.

He was startlingly clear on the evidence that before the articles complained of appeared in *The Sunday Times* no member of the county council had expressed dissatisfaction with the service provided by the TES.

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Obviously, the Labour group had taken its decision being unaware of any lawful reason for it. The officials of the county council then had to look about, with the help of counsel, in order to see whether somewhere or other, a lawful consideration could be put before the forthcoming meeting of the education committee.

For councillors had tried to persuade the court that they voted as they did influenced only by the educational ground or grounds contained in the report to the education committee.

His Lordship did not believe them. The longer they were cross-examined the more manifest it became that they were implausibly endeavouring to buttress the unsupportable. Save in rare moments of frankness from Councillors Cannon and Bratt their evidence had displayed an unworthy lack of candour.

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the TES to *The Guardian* because of the material printed in *The Sunday Times*.

Such decision making could only in the circumstances have been activated in his Lordship's view by bad faith, or, in a word, vindictiveness. It was thus an abuse of power contrary to the public good.

An illuminating light was shed on what seemed to be the cynical attitude of the councillors who voted for the ban by an incident which had taken place in court during the hearing.

Councillor Stafford, the deputy leader of the Labour group, had spoken to Councillor Latham before the morning sitting. She had said, according to her affidavit, that she thought the case was going well for the applicants whereupon Councillor Stafford said he would bet her £100 that the decision of this court would not make any difference.

In the witness box Councillor Stafford had said, wholly unconvincingly, that there had been a misunderstanding. Councillor Stafford had been public statements quite untruthful about the cause of the ban on the TES.

A similar light shone on the unexplained failure to justify the imposition of the general ban on Mr Murdoch's papers. No educational reason had been advanced for that. It simply could not be.

Mr Lester had invited the court to conclude that the county council had deliberately sought to mislead their Lordships just as it had tried to

mislead the applicants as to the true reasons for the decisions in education committee and county council meetings.

The decision, his Lordship was driven to make. There had been revealed, in his Lordship's opinion, a bad example of local authority maladministration which was potentially if not actually harmful to the interests of education in Derbyshire.

For those reasons his Lordship would give the applicants the relief sought.

In view of what had been said about bad faith and maladministration, his Lordship did not embark on a detailed examination of the allegation that the education committee decision was perverse.

Had it been necessary to do so he felt sure he would have declared that the decision was perverse because it was so manifestly bad that it was not open to a sensible or justifiable basis. Furthermore, there seemed to his Lordship to be no answer to the applicants' contention that the county council was guilty of procedural impropriety.

Mr Justice Tudor Evans agreed.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard; Mr David Tysoe, Matlock.

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The Times guide to the 119th Open Championship

# Ancient links may witness Spanish succession

By MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

JOSE-MARIA Olazábal will stand on the first tee of the Old Course at St Andrews today, stare down the fairway and start to shiver. At times over the next four days his hands will be shaking. And on the final afternoon he will be hoping to feel the tremendous pressures which afflict those who find themselves in a position to win a major championship.

Olazábal, aged 24, is ready to scale the final rung to stardom by winning the 119th Open. Yet to fulfil that ambition he is well aware that he must conquer the feelings of suffocation that always threaten those who come to the brink of golfing greatness.

Yesterday he confessed: "I am naturally emotional. It might not show when I am on the fairways, but I can tell you it is so. I shake out there. I sometimes show my hands to Dave Rea, my caddy, during a round so he knows. Then you have to grip the club, take a deep breath, look at the hole and hit a good shot. The heart beats faster and harder."

"You need to feel these things to love this game. And I love every minute of it. I will know that I am ready for this week when I stand on the first tee. I will get very emotional and that is good. I would say that if you don't feel this way then you cannot be giving it your best."

"I first had that feeling when I won my first professional tournament, the European Masters in Switzerland. I had a three-shot lead with 110 yards to go and for me at the time, even in the Alps, it was a pitching-wedge. I decided to take a sand-iron and I still pitched the ball past the flag. You see the advantage was really pumping."

"It was really pumping again this year when I had to hole from five feet to win. There was real pressure on that putt. I like the pressure. I want to feel it every week. I never want to be in the comfort zone. I want to be where there is not enough air around you to breathe."

Some observers claim that Olazábal will need to be in that

position at least once before winning a major championship. That before he can triumph, he must first fail. Olazábal's best performance in the Open is eighth. He has finished in the top ten in both the Masters and the US Open. But he has not challenged in a major; not faced the moment of truth when true champions emerge.

Nick Faldo recalled: "I had to go to the well a few times before I fulfilled my dream. José-Maria has been close in a couple of majors but he hasn't exactly been running with the leaders. I think you need to, and blow a few, to realise how to run past them. Not that it would surprise me if he won."

Yet history does not always dictate that a player must first go through the fire. Olazábal can draw comfort from the knowledge that for both Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino, US Open titles were their first tournament wins as professionals. Severiano Ballesteros was, after all, only a raw 19-year-old when he finished joint-second to Johnny Miller at Royal Birkdale in 1976.

Ballesteros was the Open champion for the first time at 22. He had, by then, won 16 titles against the nine that Olazábal has collected. It is natural for comparisons to be made between them, because of their similar upbringings in tiny villages separated only by a few hundred miles of Spanish coastline.

As golfers, however, they are as different as St Andrews and Sunningdale. Ballesteros has overpowered courses, Arnold Palmer-style; Olazábal is more of a right-handed Bob Charles. He relies more on accuracy, which will serve him well this week as the bunkers must be avoided at all costs.

Faldo pinpointed some of the reasons Olazábal could be the new champion. "He is determined. He has a very good short game. He is a hard grafter. He's young and he's at the stage where he can make a move in world golf. He has the



Famous three-ball: Greg Norman (centre) is the odd man out of this trio at the past champions' dinner for unlike Ballesteros and Nicklaus he has yet to win at St Andrews

presence to follow in Seve's footsteps."

Both Sandy Lyle and Ian Woosnam agree with Faldo's view. Lyle said: "José-Maria has a very good short game. His chipping and putting are excellent. He's not got a classical swing, it's not long. In fact, it's rather short, quick and compact. But he is a pretty complete golfer with tremendous concentration. He has grown up very well over the years. If he stays healthy this week, and if he feels confident, then there is no reason why he shouldn't win. "I'm not sure that he will ever have the same charisma as Seve."

There again, if he keeps winning the way he has been, and he keeps enjoying it as he does, then I'm sure the crowd are going to love him. They like him now. He has the chance to overtake Seve. But only time will tell."

Woosnam believes that St Andrews will suit Olazábal but that he will need to stay in command on his temperament. "I just think he sometimes loses his cool a little bit," Woosnam said.

"If he can control himself and not lose his head when he hits a bad shot, then there is no reason why he should not win. He hits the ball right to left which is good for

the Old Course. If he gets the putts in and stays in control of his temperament then I think José-Maria can be a world-beater."

It is Olazábal's intensity which could be the chink in his armour and he has attempted to protect himself by suggesting that, following a two-week break, he has lost his game. Although that might have been the case he has looked very comfortable over the last few days.

While his manager, Sergio Gómez, has banned him from reading the newspapers, Olazábal has been his parents, Gaspar, a greengrocer, and Julia, from

attending the Open until he wins a major championship. "They get very nervous so it is for their own good," Olazábal said. "They will watch at home on the television with my sister, Sabina."

Twelve months ago Mark Calcavecchia, an American, overcame Greg Norman and Wayne Grady, two Australians, in a play-off and only one European, David Feherty, was in the top ten.

Ballesteros, Norman and Faldo remain the obvious favourites, although Ballesteros and Tom Watson will both need to be the protagonists, as they were in 1984.

Quite possibly, Jack Nicklaus, aged 50, with memories of 1970 and 1978 to sustain him, could be the leading American, although Paul Azinger and Payne Stewart, among others, will disagree.

Olazábal is back on the course where he played his first Open in 1984. Then Ballesteros punched the air in triumph, knowing the title was his, after Watson's two-iron shot finished on the road at the 17th.

Olazábal desperately wants to know that overwhelming feeling of elation granted to those who take the Open at the home of the game.

## MITCHELL PLATTS EXAMINES THE FIFTEEN LEADING CONTENDERS FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP



**MARK CALCAVECCHIA (US):** Age: 30. Tournament wins: seven. Major championships: Open (1985). Career earnings: £2m. Determined to be patient and control temper. Will need to do this to make successful defence. Recent double bogey-bogey finish in Greater Hartford Open raised question mark. Yet he showed true grit to win at Royal Troon a year ago. Preferred left-to-right shape of shot might be a handicap on Old Course. Will use a wedge if necessary on the double greens.



**GREG NORMAN (Australia):** Age: 35. Tournament wins: 61. Major championships: Open (1985). Career earnings: £4m. No one more deserves a slice of fortune. Last year another chapter of major misfortune. Destiny, as he notes, has looked after the other guys. The Great White Shark can devour courses, as he showed with a 63 at Turnberry. Driving power launches momentum. Sometimes frustrated on greens.



**NICK FALDO (GB):** Age: 33. Tournament wins: 23. Major championships: Open (1987). Career earnings: £3m. The best player in the world today. Just how many majors he can win remains to be seen. Has Tom Watson's total of eight in his mind. Meticulous approach on the practice range aided by David Leadbetter. Few flaws in swing. Accuracy off tee important with many hidden bunkers to be missed. His punter is the hottest in the business.



**JOSÉ-MARIA OLAZÁBAL (Spain):** Age: 24. Tournament wins: nine. Major championships: none. Career earnings: £1.5m. Will not mind if the wind blows. Hits the ball with a low trajectory that makes the Open his best major chance. Ignore claim that his game is in disarray. It will not be when he tees up. Has found the length off the tee his game lacked. Few better long-run players. A magician on and around the greens.



**IAN WOOSNAM (GB):** Age: 32. Tournament wins: 20. Major championships: none. Career earnings: £2 million. Has rediscovered the form which won him more than £1 million in 1987. Insists money no longer a factor. If that is the case, fame beckons. A 50 in Monte Carlo, followed by a 62 at Gienasples, embarrassed him as the form man. Confidence on the greens heightened by new Ram Zebra putter. No question that, tee to green, he can match his peers. Pulled back muscle may prove handicap. Capricious putter the key.



**SEVERIANO BALLESTEROS (Spain):** Age: 33. Tournament wins: 60. Major championships: US Open (1985), Open (1979, 1984, 1988), Masters (1980, 1983), Career earnings: £3.2m. Recent form best ignored as Open remains top of his shopping list. Forget talk of rescaled swing: still as silky-smooth as ever. What is missing is confidence and has regular saddle. Ian Wright. Must overcome hoodoo of not winning a major with a brother at his side. Vicente takes the bag. Still hungry. Capricious putter the key.



**CURTIS STRANGE (US):** Age: 35. Tournament wins: 11. Major championships: US Open (1985), Open (1989). Career earnings: £4m. Down-to-earth Virginian with salt-and-pepper hair. Intimidating on-course demeanour contrasts with relaxed off-course outlook. At home with blue jeans and a beer. Has the memory of his course record 62 to drive him on. Has curbed tendency to throw the odd club in despair. Armoury has no chinks as he does everything well.



**PAYNE STEWART (US):** Age: 33. Tournament wins: 11. Major championships: US PGA (1989). Career earnings: £2.9m. Laid-back approach camouflages desire. Wants to be recognised as the best. Has the game, too. Tee to green, much to admire and has improved putting. Masterful touch with sand wedge will assist recovery from Old Course's petulant bunkers. Cocksure, he has strength of character to conquer.



**PAUL AZINGER (US):** Age: 30. Tournament wins: five. Major championships: none. Career earnings: £2.2m. Heartbreak loss to Faldo at Muirfield fuelled his love for the links. Inspired by tradition and Open conditions. Not bothered by wind or rain as he is fine exponent of the knock-down shot to the green. Clear head helps him see all the options. Wonderful scrambler. Putts before fortune. Underlined determination with Ryder Cup win over Ballesteros.



**FRED COUPLES (US):** Age: 30. Tournament wins: four. Major championships: none. Career earnings: £2m. Strength lies in his ability to overpower a course, though accuracy off the tee sometimes a concern. But comfortable with the driver and the long iron. Not so with the wedges. Could be his Achilles' heel at St Andrews. Must also transplant off-course serenity to the fairways. One of the nicest men in the game but too often appears to lose concentration.



**BERNHARD LANGER (WG):** Age: 33. Tournament wins: 28. Major championships: Masters (1986). Career earnings: £3m. Mental and physical strength have long since been key points to his success. Overcame the yips to triumph. Though still uses right-hand-on-left-wrist grip to eliminate twitch. Otherwise has the Open credentials. He is long off the tee, though sometimes wayward, and arrow-straight with his irons. Expert in the bunkers.



**ROMAN RAFFERTY (GB):** Age: 26. Tournament wins: nine. Major championships: none. Career earnings: £1.5m. When he was Europe's top money winner. Has power and precision. Tee-to-green strength emphasised by first place in Philips 'greens in regulation' category last year. Not making the putts that he did in 1988. Definite contender if he can find the secret of the Old Course's undulations. Experience gleaned from Masters and US Open should serve him well.



**RODGER DAVIS (Australia):** Age: 39. Tournament wins: 18. Major championships: none. Career earnings: £1.5m. Fully recovered from neck injury that caused him to miss last year's Open. Set his stall this season to be No. 1 in Europe and Open champion. Two wins have helped him stay in touch with Woosnam and breed confidence for this week. Wonderful rhythm suggests he should figure if the putter remains obedient. Would make a nifty last-day partner for Payne Stewart.



**TOM WATSON (US):** Age: 40. Tournament wins: 39. Major championships: Open (1975, 1977, 1980, 1982, 1983), Masters (1977, 1981), US Open (1982). Affinity with Scotland and the Open will charge his inspirational banks. Too often a major contender to be ignored, although must keep head up if the putter wobbles. Has questioned whether you can only go to the well so often with your nerves. St Andrews will provide ultimate test, with Harry Vardon's record six wins the target.



**JACK NICKLAUS (US):** Age: 50. Tournament wins: 34. Major championships: US Open (1962, 1967, 1972, 1980), Masters (1963, 1965, 1966, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1980), Open (1966, 1970, 1978). Career earnings: £5 million. Love affair with St Andrews will inspire him. Has come to terms with being 50 and massaged ego with two Senior Tour wins. New Jumbo Ozaki driver has given him extra length. Back problem eased by nutritionist diet. Still competitive, still capable.

### OPEN FORM GUIDE

	1980	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89
P Azinger (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72 74 78
S Ballesteros (Sp)	719	739	713	70	1 739	78	1 777	—	—	—
M Calcavecchia (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
F Couples (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
R Davis (Aus)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C Strange (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
D Frost (SA)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B Langer (WG)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
A Lyle (GB)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
M McIlroy (Zim)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
J Nicklaus (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
G Norman (Aus)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
N Price (SA)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
R Rafferty (GB)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
P Stewart (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C Strange (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T Watson (US)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
I Woosnam (GB)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

1980: Muirfield. 1981: Sandwich. 1982: Troon. 1983: Birkdale. 1984: St Andrews. 1985: Royal St George's. 1986: Turnberry. 1987: Muirfield. 1988: Lytham and St Anne's. 1989: Troon.

### OPEN RECORDS

Most wins: Six, Harry Vardon, 1896, 1898, 1899, 1903, 1911, 1914.  
Most times runner-up: Seven, Jack Nicklaus (US), 1964, 1967, 1968, 1972, 1976, 1977, 1979.  
Lowest winning score: 288, Tom Watson (US), 1977, at Turnberry.  
Lowest individual rounds: 63, Mark Hayes (SA), 1977; Isao Aoki (Japan), 1980; Greg Norman (Aus), second round, Turnberry, 1986.  
Biggest winning margin: 13 strokes, by Old Tom Morris, at Prestwick, 1862.  
Oldest winner: Old Tom Morris, in 1994.  
46 years 99 days, 1867.  
Youngest winner: Young Tom Morris, 17 years five months eight days, 1868.  
Youngest and oldest competitors: John Ball, aged 14, 1878; Gene Sarazen, aged 71, 1973.  
Winners in three decades: Harry Vardon, 1896, 1903, 1911; J H Taylor, 1894, 1900, 1913; Gary Player, 1959, 1968, 1974.  
The Championship will be held next year at Royal Birkdale, which will be hosting the event for the seventh time.  
The Open goes to Muirfield in 1992, with Royal St George's following in 1993 and Turnberry in 1994.

### OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS 1970-1989

Year	Winner	Score	Runner-up
1970 St Andrews	J Nicklaus (US)	283	D Bradburn (US)
1971 Royal Birkdale	L Trevino (US)	278	L H Lu (Formosa)
1972 Muirfield	L Trevino (US)	278	N Collins (GB)
1973 Troon	T Weekes (US)	276	J Miller (US)
1974 Royal Lytham	G Player (SA)	282	P Oosterhuis (GB)
1975 Carnoustie	T Watson (US)	279	S Ealton (US)
1976 Royal Birkdale	J Miller (US)	278	J Nicklaus (US)
1977 Turnberry	T Watson (US)	268	S Owen (NZ)
1978 St Andrews	J Nicklaus (US)	281	R Floyd (US)
1979 Royal Lytham	S Ballesteros (Sp)	283	B Cranaham (US)
1980 Muirfield	T Watson (US)	271	L Trevino (US)
1981 Royal St George's	W Rogers (US)	276	B Langer (WG)
1982 Royal Troon	T Watson (US)	284	P Oosterhuis (GB)
1983 Royal Birkdale	T Watson (US)	275	H Irwin (US)
1984 St Andrews	S Ballesteros (Sp)	278	B Langer (WG)
1985 Royal St George's	A Lyle (GB)	282	T Watson (US)
1986 Turnberry	G Norman (Aus)	280	G J Brand (GB)
1987 Muirfield	J Hutchinson (US)	279	P Azinger (US)
1988 Royal Lytham	S Ballesteros (Sp)	273	N Price (Zim)
1989 Royal Troon	M Calcavecchia (US)	275	G Norman (Aus)

\* denotes play-off

### WINNERS AT ST ANDREWS

Year	Winner	Score	Year	Winner	Score
1873	T Kidd (GB)	179	1939	R Burton (GB)	290
1874	R Martin (GB)	178	1945	S Sneed (US)	290
1879	J Anderson (GB)	169	1955	P Thomson (Aus)	281
1882	B Ferguson (GB)	171	1957	A Locke (SA)	278
1885	R Martin (GB)	171	1964	A Locke (SA)	279
1888	J Burns (GB)	172	1970	J Nicklaus (US)	281
1891	M Kennedy (GB)	171	1976	J Nicklaus (US)	281
1894	J H Taylor (GB)	321	1978	S Ballesteros (Sp)	273
1900	J H Taylor (GB)	309	1984	S Ballesteros (Sp)	278
1905	J Brad (GB)	318	1985	A Lyle (GB)	282
1910	J Brad (GB)	299	1986	G Norman (Aus)	280
1914	J Hutchinson (US)	295	1987	J Hutchinson (US)	279
1927	R T Jones (US)	285	1988	T Watson (US)	275
1933	D Shute (US)	282	1989	M Calcavecchia (US)	275

### How to get to the course

Traffic from Dundee and the north: Tay Road bridge-A92 to Leuchars-A910 to Guardbridge-A91 to St Andrews.  
Traffic from Perth and the north-west: A912 to Balgownie-A913 through Abernethy and Newburgh to Parbroath crossroads on the main Kircaldy to Dundee road-A914 to Forgan roundabout and merge with traffic from north.  
Traffic from Edinburgh, the south and the west: Forth Road Bridge-M90 to Junction 8-A91 to St Andrews.  
Traffic from the South (bound for Blue car parks): Forth Road Bridge-M90 to Junction 3-A921 to Kircaldy-south on A92 to Windygates and Leven-B927 to Montrose and merge with A918-A916 to Perth to Crathrothie-B939 to St Andrews.  
Traffic from Glenrothes and central Fife: East on A911 to Windygates-east on A915 to St Andrews.  
The police are expecting to deal with anything up to 20,000 vehicles a day when the Championship starts. Up to 75 police officers a day will be on duty, dealing with traffic, communications and crime prevention.  
Tickets will be available throughout the Championship. The cost is from £12 per day of the championship.

### CHAMPIONSHIP DRAW

**DRAW (today and tomorrow):** GB and Ireland unless stated:  
0715 and 1145: Woodland (Aus), M Poon, D A Russell.  
0725 and 1155: D Ray, D Cooper, P Harrison.  
0735 and 1205: P Lyons, D Jones, A Bann.  
0745 and 1215: S Pate (US), L Wadkins (US), A Sorenson (US).  
0755 and 1225: H Irwin (US), J-M Calzavara (Sp), N Ozaki (Japan).  
0805 and 1240: D Pooley (US), M Rose, B Jones (Aus).  
0820 and 1250: M Hulbert (US), S Jones (US), E Romero (Arg).  
0830 and 1300: S Ballesteros (Sp), T Watson (US), N Price (Zim).  
0840 and 1310: M Calcavecchia (US), P Couples (US), C O'Connor (Aus).  
0850 and 1320: B Charles (NZ), C Patton (US), T Weekes (US).  
0900 and 1330: M O'Halloran (US), H Clark (Aus), L Kite (US).  
0910 and 1345: A Lyle, T Kite (US), V Singh (Fiji).  
0925 and 1355: B McAllister (US), P Walton, G Turner (NZ).  
0935 and 1405: S Simpson (US), S Ginn (Aus), G Brand (Arg).  
0945 and 1415: C Montgomerie, L Trevino (US), T Simpson (US).  
0955 and 1425: A North (US), M McNulty (Zim), E Darcy.  
1005 and 1435: P Mitchell, J Davila (Sp), R Hartmann (US).  
1015 and 1440: R Gamez (US), R Tway (US), G Norman (Aus).  
1030 and 1500: M Murray, T Armour (US), I Aoki (Japan).  
1040 and 1510: C Strange (US), C Parry (Aus), I Woosnam.  
1050 and 1520: N Faldo, S Hoch (US), J Bland (SA).  
1100 and 1530: P Mitchell, J Davila (Sp), R Hartmann (US).  
1110 and 1540: J Cueros (Sp), P Curry, P Archibald (Aus).  
1120 and 1550: P Baker, Y Hagawa (Japan), B Barnes.  
1135 and 1600: J Berendt (Arg), B Norton (US), R Weir.  
1145 and 1610: A Hare, K Knox (US), M Allen (US).  
1155 and 1620: M Krantz (Swe), J Higgins, D Williams.  
1205 and 0715: J Spence, J Garvas (Sp), C Mackay.  
1215 and 0725: J Rutledge (Can), G Farr, K Waters.  
1225 and 0735: P Hedblom (Swe), R Gonzalez (Arg), D Milovic (Can).  
1240 and 0745: J Nicklaus (US), D Frost (SA), J-M Olazábal (Sp).  
1250 and 0755: J Mudd (US), W Wetter (SA), J Rivero (Sp).  
1300 and 0805: P Stewart (US), M Clayton (Aus), B Langer (WG).  
1310 and 0820: R Boxall, L Mize (US), S Elkington (Aus).  
1320 and 0830: P Jacobson (US), C Beck (US), M Martin (Sp).  
1330 and 0840: C Pavin (US), M Harwood (Aus), R Rafferty.  
1345 and 0850: A Palmer (Aus), G Player (SA), R Munz (Neth).  
1355 and 0900: R Floyd (US), F Nobilo (NZ), D Smyth.  
1405 and 0910: B Cranaham (US), B O'Leary (Aus), M Mackenzie.  
1415 and 0925: J Sluman (US), S Torrance, J Hawkes (SA).  
1425 and 0935: J Huston (US), R Chapman, P Senior (Aus).  
1435 and 0945: P Way, D Hammond (US), M Ozaki (Japan).  
1450 and 0955: K Green (US), D Feherty, P Fowler (Aus).  
1500 and 1005: C Stadler (US), D Love (US), R Davis (Aus).  
1510 and 1015: M McCumber (US), M James, D Graham (Aus).  
1520 and 1030: V Fernandez (Arg), B Glasston (US), P Azinger (US).  
1530 and 1040: J Moore (Aus), Y Kuramoto (Japan), S Benhart.  
1540 and 1050: W Player (SA), P Broadhurst, P Hall.  
1550 and 1100: J Morgan, G Powers (US), P Hoad.  
1600 and 1110: K Trimble (Aus), G Lovenson (SA), D Durman.  
1610 and 1120: P Mayo, R Drummond, A Nash.  
1620 and 1135: D Canipe (US), B Estes (US), A Saavedra (Arg).  
\* denotes amateur

FIND OUT WHO'S LEADING BEFORE THE LEADER

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# Stylish India cruise home

By ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

HEADINGLEY (India won the toss): India beat England by six wickets

THE process by which England are learning to play Test cricket again continues to have quite the reverse effect on their one-day form, for they were thoroughly outplayed yesterday, in the first of two Texaco Trophy matches against India, and the overwhelming defeat was the sixth in their last seven such internationals.

The good news for England was that Gooch, Gower and Lamb, who between them have played 290 of these games, provided 151 runs. The bad news is that the remaining eight men could put together only 55. On a pitch too slow to be ideal, but still in no sense malicious, this was the key to defeat.

England's inadequate total was all the more disappointing for the lofty expectations which had grown during a serene second-wicket stand between Gooch and Gower. A score of 300 did not seem out of range, and Gooch's mood was such that he looked good for at least half of them himself.

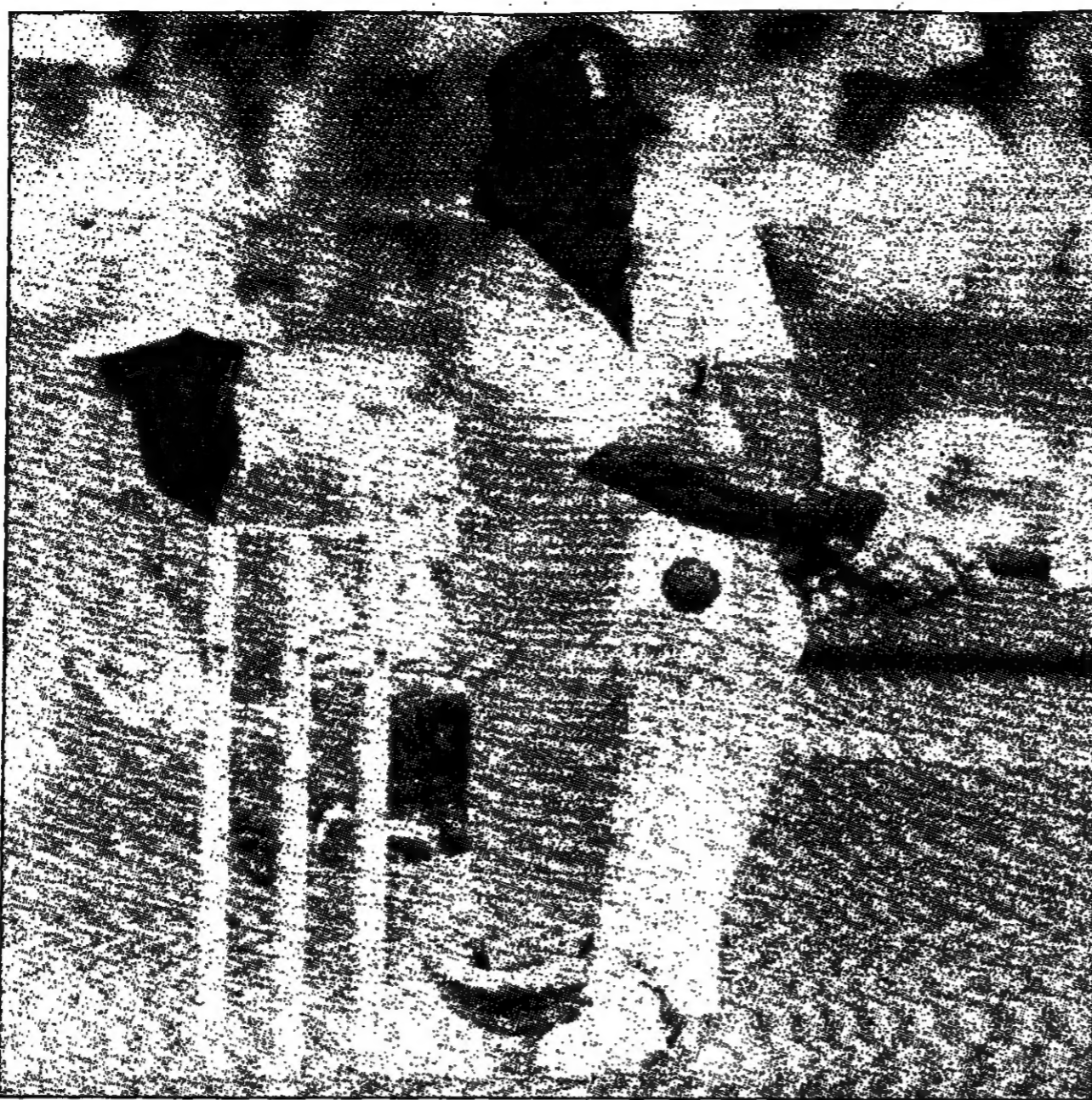
The innings began to founder as soon as Gooch was unexpectedly deceived by Ravi Shastri's flight and, as a succession of batsmen failed to perceive some subtle changes of pace by an Indian attack which performed markedly better than its pre-publicity had indicated, England's last eight wickets went down for 95 runs.

It never seemed likely to extend a team who can boast an international century-maker at No. 9, and it did not. India sauntered home with 12 balls to spare but an awful lot more in hand, and there was enough, from Manjrekar and Azharuddin in particular, to confirm that England will have serious trouble bowling them out in the games to come.

Unbroken blue skies and sapping heat was just what the Yorkshire club needed on a day when another poor crowd could have jeopardised the future of international matches on this ground. The attendance of 15,300 was still below capacity, but receipts of £227,000 were a comforting £50,000 up on the Texaco game against New Zealand staged here in May.

Since that day, Michael Atherton has so rapidly established his place as Gooch's opening partner that there was no question he would play his first 'one-day game here. Gower, obliged to open against New Zealand, reverted to No. 3, but, as expected, Morris was omitted along with Small.

As things transpired, Gower did not have to wait long. Atherton had made only seven when he went back to Prabhakar and was beaten off the pitch. Gower entered to a



Missing the boat: Lamb, watched by More, fails to make contact as he tries to sweep at Headingley yesterday

prolonged reception which must have heartened him and, although never quite at his best with the ball, he was onto the bat, his 50 was a vindication.

Gooch, meanwhile, was treating the bowling with contempt. He has enjoyed some purple patches of form in his time but probably has never played with quite the authority he now takes to the crease each time he bats. He drove, cut and pulled with the timing of a man who, currently, hardly knows what it is to fail.

He was out, to unanimous surprise, in the fifth over of a fascinating spell by Shastri, who bowled more slowly and with more variation than has been his custom in one-day cricket. He was much the better for the adjustments, which hinted at the work of the Indian coach, Bishan Bedi, and the ball which dismissed Gooch was cleverly held back.

While Shastri bowled his spell straight through, Anil Kumble was equally effective from the other end. Only 20 years old and the junior leg-spinner to Hirwani in the Indian party, Kumble uses his height well and is unusually accurate for a wrist spinner.

Not a single boundary was conceded in 11 overs containing only 29 runs and the wickets of Gower, confounded by prodigious turn, and Smith, undone by bounce.

At 142 for four, with 13 overs left, England's sights had already been severely lowered, and if India's fielding had not wilted under pressure the total might barely have limped to 200. Both Russell and Lamb were dropped during a stand worth 44, and there were some elementary and expensive errors in the outfield.

England, however, failed to take advantage. Their innings faded tamely into submission, the last four wickets falling in 15 balls. They were bowled out with three balls unused.

Raman gave England a breath of hope by surrendering to the first legitimate ball of the reply, DeFreitas having begun with a no-ball, but Sidhu and Manjrekar were soon picking up two and three in the contented knowledge that there was no need to hurry.

Fraser applied the brake in his characteristically nagging way, but even when Sidhu fell in the last over before tea there was little cause for English optimism. Tendulkar, the boy wonder, played one memorably shot, a straight six off Hemmings, before showing Malcolm too much of his leg stump, leaving Manjrekar and Azharuddin to put the issue beyond serious doubt with a partnership worth 68 in 10 overs.

## Extra reason for clearing the boundary

THE big hitters of county cricket have a new target this summer — a £10,000 jackpot if they can hit more than 50 sixes. In 1986 Botham hit a record 80 sixes in first-class cricket, while last year Hick topped the list with a mere 29.

Other prizes of £10,000 are on offer for batsmen totalling more than 2,500 first-class runs or bowlers picking up more than 125 wickets. Anyone hitting 20 sixes or more will receive £10 per six.

## Botham gets all-clear

IAN Botham will not need a further knee operation and could be back in action for Worcestershire against Glamorgan on Saturday.

Botham saw a specialist in Manchester yesterday after the knee flared up during the Beeson and Hedges Cup final on Saturday. But the Worcestershire captain, Phil Neale, said: "The problem has settled down. He will not need an operation and may be available for the weekend."

Botham was out of action for three weeks earlier in the season following an operation. The Worcestershire pace

## HEADINGLEY SCOREBOARD

India won toss	ENGLAND	India
10 A Gooch c b Shastri 45	45	45
Checked drive against slower ball		
M A Atherton lbw b Prabhakar 7	7	7
Swung by ball cutting back		
D Gower b Kumble 50	50	50
Hit over the top		
A J Lamb c Prabhakar b Kapil Dev 59	59	59
Drove slower ball to keep-off		
R A Smith c More b Kumble 6	6	6
Top-edged hitting leg break		
PA J DeFreitas b Shastri 14	14	14
Hit over the top		
PA J DeFreitas b Shastri 11	11	11
Swung by ball cutting back		
CG Lewis b b Prabhakar 5	5	5
Played across a slower ball		
EE Hemmings b Shastri 3	3	3
Swung by ball cutting back		
ARC Fraser not out 4	4	4
DE Malcolm c Kapil Dev b Prabhakar 4	4	4
Swung by ball cutting back		
Extras (6 b, 5 w, 9 nb) 23		
Total (54.3 overs) 229		

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-55, 3-134, 4-142, 5-186, 6-195, 7-211, 8-221, 9-224.  
BOWLING: Kapil Dev 11-1-49-2 (w 7), 1-18-0, 4-0-31-2; Prabhakar 10.3-1-40-3 (w 2); Shastri 11-1-23-0 (w 4); DeFreitas 11-1-23-0 (w 4); Gooch 11-1-23-0 (w 4); Lewis 11-1-23-0 (w 4); Hemmings 11-1-23-0 (w 4); Fraser 11-1-23-0 (w 4); Kumble 11-1-23-0 (w 4).

Man of the match: A Gooch.

Umpires: J H Hampshire and J W Holder.

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# When an injury can help a player

By JOHN HENNESSY

AS THE saying goes, what you see is what you get so far as Ian Woosnam is concerned. Never one to dissemble, he has not hidden the fact that St Andrews is not one of his favourite golf courses.

"When it's hard and bouncy it's not fair," he says, "but when it's like this..." and a shrug of the shoulders indicated that the greening of the Old course this year might make it more acceptable.

The backdrop of history and tradition seems to leave him unmoved. Remind him on the fairway that he might be accompanied by the ghost of James Braid and he will as likely as not respond: "OK, so long as he doesn't get in the way of my backswing."

For all his success and billowing bank balance in recent years, after plodding away year after year as a journeyman professional, he has his feet firmly on the ground. How else to explain that during last year's Open at Royal Troon he chose to stay with his family not in five-star hotel luxury but at a Bultins holiday camp. Nor did he care who knew it.

No player goes into the championship with his game in such good order as Woosnam. Having won the last two events on the European Tour, the Monte Carlo Open and the Scottish Open, he can establish an historical landmark by now winning at St Andrews.

He humiliated the, admittedly undemanding, Mont Agel course with a record 60, coming within a whisker of registering the first 59 on the Tour, and followed that with another record, a 62 at Gleneagles.

But if his game is clearly on sweet song, the same can hardly be said for his body. He has been plagued by a back injury which has limited his practice possibilities this week and he may need to have an injection before he can tee the ball up this morning.

He has described the pain of a pulled muscle as like someone sticking a knife into him every time he stretches. This is no new experience for him but, of course, it could not have come at a worse time.

To see Woosnam play is to marvel at the mysteries of the golf swing. There is so little of him, only 5ft 4in tall, and there appears to be so little effort that you wonder how he can keep up with the big boys.

The big game allied to the small physique is the quality that endears him so much to golfing galleries in the United States as well as here at home.

He takes a relaxed view of the Open. Certainly it is the "ultimate championship", the one they all want to win, but he has treated it like any other tournament, following the usual procedures, so far as his ailing back would allow. "I don't think people can play themselves into playing well," he says. "Golf is not like that. You play well or you don't, but you have to go with what you've got."

He is well aware of the maxim "beware the sick golfer". He believes that when you are injured you tend to play within yourself and swing more easily. "Maybe it's in the back of your mind," he theorises, "that you are not going to do so well and all of a sudden you are relaxed and playing well. Before you know it you are in a position to win." As he may well be on Tuesday afternoon.

## Punters' choice

THE welter of smaller money invested yesterday was for the older generation. William Hill reported that Nicklaus, Watson, Trevino, Irwin and Wadkins were popular.

# Faldo is seen by the greatest as ace in the pack

By MITCHELL PLATTIS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE OPEN



ST ANDREWS

JACK Nicklaus, arguably the greatest golfer ever, came off the fence on the eve of the 119th Open Championship that starts today at St Andrews and said Nick Faldo was the best of the contenders.

It was a wonderful compliment for the Englishman whose performances in winning successive Masters titles after his 1987 Open triumph have established him at the pinnacle of world golf.

"Nick Faldo has been the best in major championships for the last three years," Nicklaus said. "Curtis Strange has been good, Greg Norman reasonable and, Seve Ballesteros hasn't been at his best for the last two years."

"I do feel that we haven't in recent times had someone come along who has decided in himself that he will dominate. If Nick Faldo decides, then he will. I'm sure he has the dedication: he needs to believe truly in himself so that when he walks into a room anywhere in the world the best golfers say 'There's the man'."

"I see no reason why a player shouldn't dominate as others have in the past. But the amount of prize-money available today is diluting incentive; the prize-money was not there to spoil the likes of Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Sam Snead and myself from not wanting to play more often."

"A player can go out today and win more money from one tournament than Hogan did in his whole career. It doesn't make sense. The reason I turned professional was to be the best in the business. I don't think the guys come out on tour nowadays with that in mind. When one does, he will dominate."

Faldo believes he is on the threshold of doing that, and, oozing with confidence, he spoke with such optimism as he completed his preparations.

# Rafferty turns full circle to get ahead

By MEL WEBB

RONAN Rafferty's first visit to St Andrews was in a party from Abbey Christian Brothers School in Newry. He had never seen the Old Course before, but took it on with the confidence of youth, and played the front nine in a level-par 36. He was 12 years old.

Rafferty's handicap was eight in those carefree days of 1976. Within two years he was scratch, within five he had become the youngest British player in Walker Cup history in the 1981 match at the age of 17 years and seven months and won his two foursomes.

Within months he had turned professional, and the learning curve, which had been so dramatically steep all his young life took on a new dimension.

Victory took a long time coming, but did so eventually last year, when he won the Italian Open, then won again in Sweden, and topped off the year by taking the showpiece event of the European Tour season, the Volvo Masters. This confirmed him as the leading player in the European order of merit.

He went on to make his first Ryder Cup appearance, winning his singles against Mark Calcavecchia on a spine-tin-gling final day. Rafferty, after eight years of learning his craft had arrived.

These days he lives in a luxury home in Ascot with his wife, Clare, and their one-year-old son, Jonathan, and collects fine wines as a hobby. Rafferty was born in Newry in January 1964, but when he

was a lad his family to move to Warrenpoint in County Down. Rafferty met Don Patterson, then the professional at Warrenpoint Golf Club, at a Golf Foundation class. What Patterson saw was a sturdy, fair-haired 11-year-old who had a motley selection of clubs.

Patterson, still the man Rafferty looks to when in trouble with his swing, saw that he was a singular talent. He persisted with the boy, and as a Christmas present a couple of years later gave him a coaching aid that is standing him in good stead today.

It was a curious, sledgehammer-like implement, an ordinary golf club shaft with about 4lb of lead instead of a conventional head. Rafferty would swing it 25 times, grown men could scarcely lift it more than twice, and did a great deal to shape and mould the very individual method that Rafferty uses today.

His swing is no oil painting, but has a certain beauty lies in its simplicity, while his shot game is among the best in Europe, if not world golf. He is also blessed with an almost uncanny gift of course management.

He is one of Europe's favourites for the great championship that is about to be enacted on the Old Course. He was to pull it off; he will remember no doubt, Warrenpoint Golf Club, Don Patterson, and a leader-headed for ever a priceless harbinger of a career paved with gold.

# Shropshire lad in pursuit of an Olympic dream

By DON ANTHONY

"AND of the Olympic Games, which modern Greece has not yet revived, it is not a Greek to whom one is indebted, but rather to Dr W. P. Brookes... now aged 82... still active, vigorous, organising and animating them."

Thus spoke Pierre de Coubertin in 1890, after returning from his visit to Much Wenlock in Shropshire, where he had been made an honorary member of the Olympian Society.

Brookes had established the society in 1850. The Shropshire Olympian Society followed, and in 1865 the National Olympian Association took shape. A year later, the first National Olympian Games were staged at the Crystal Palace.

They were organised by Herr Ravenstein, the director of the German Gymnastic Society, and 10,000 people attended, including a young cricketer, W. G. Grace.

Grace, playing at the Oval, organised a substitute fielder, trotted up the hill to Sydenham, won the 440 yards hurdles, ran back to the Oval and completed the match.

The German Gymnastic Society played a key part in the development of British national organisations for sport. It was a founder member of the Amateur Athletic Association in its headquarters, at Kings Cross, national associations for gymnastics, fencing, weightlifting, wrestling and swimming were all germinated. Its gymnasium still stands.

Ravenstein and Brookes worked together to build the Olympic idea in Britain. They were joined by Thomas Hulley, of Liverpool, a leader in the YMCA muscular Christianity movement but it was Penny Brookes who was the motor. He started the Much Wenlock Olympian Society just as Robert Dover's Cotswold Olympics were

into their last year, 1851. The town's doctor and magistrate, he was also active in bringing the railway and gasworks to Much Wenlock. Brookes was eager to make sport available to the agricultural workers, as well as to the gentry, and he spent his whole adult life campaigning for the Olympian idea.

He was aware of attempts to revive the Olympic Games in Greece as early as 1859 and he exchanged prizes with the Greeks. He saw the wider implications of "physical education for the masses".

Brookes' dream was to revive the Olympics — with Greece as its centre point. Coubertin's conception was a peripatetic Games. Brookes wrote to Coubertin: "I think your ideas to have festivals held in rotation by all nations desirous of joining in the movement... really superb."

The visit by Coubertin to Much Wenlock in the autumn of 1890 was marked by a steady downpour, but the baron was in good sporting form. He said that when he first came to Britain, nine years before, he "hated the English" — but this was because "England was the only European nation not subdued by Napoleon II". The announcement that he had "since changed his opinion" was greeted with applause by the 60 souls gathered in the Raven Hotel.

Before the games, an oak tree, to be called the French Oak, was planted and then anointed with "a copious libation of champagne" — to "cement the friendly feeling" between England and France. The equestrian "trotting" event was won, it appears, by a visitor from Alicante, thus giving an international slant to the Wenlock Games.

It has always seemed strange that Brookes has never been properly chronicled or honoured for his Olympic contributions. Was it because he was considered a provincial by Londoners — or that he was neither Oxford nor Cambridge?

In any case, it will be rectified on Saturday. The Princess Royal will be guest of honour. The Princess Royal Oak will join the Jubilee and the French oaks. Children from William Penny Brookes School, the town's secondary comprehensive, will present winning sports-poetry entries. Tipping will be revived. From 10.30am.

The Shropshire lad who cleverly linked the Cotswold Jacobean Olympics to his Victorian Olympian Games — and thus gave Britain a 300-year-plus heritage of organised Olympism — will be honoured in memory as he was never in life.

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